VOGUE®

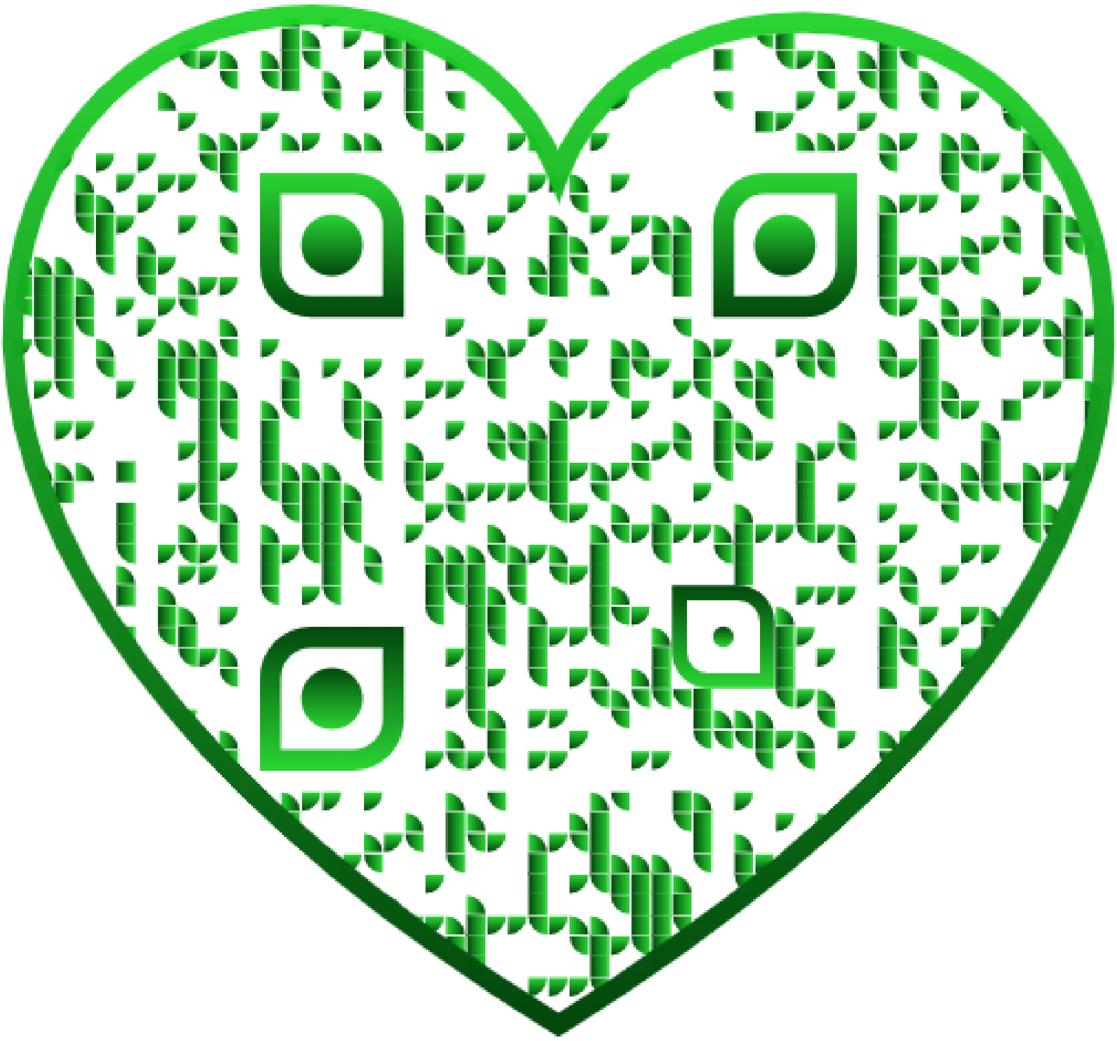
JULY

WEDDING COUNTDOWN: *THE LOOKS*
THE GLOW
THE CAKE

LENA DUNHAM'S LAST AFFAIR

"I FEEL INVINCIBLE"

Dua Lipa



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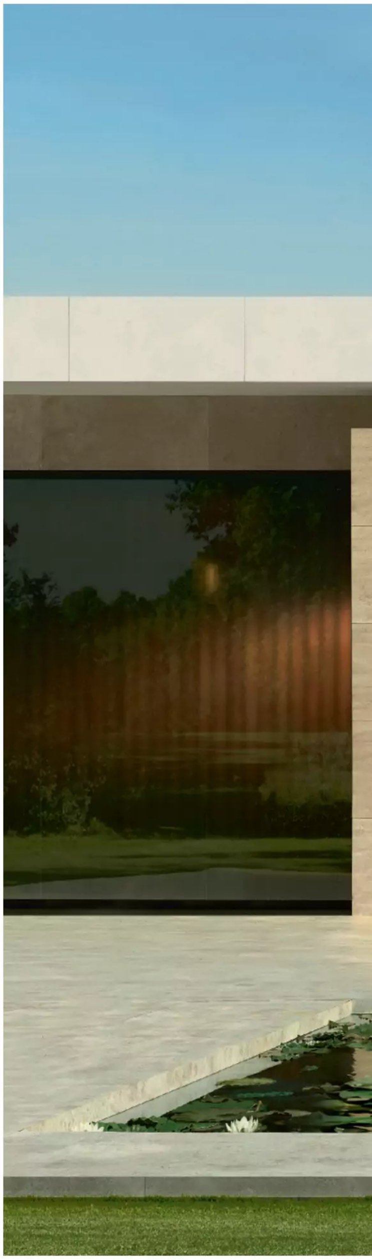

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JULY

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COVER LOOK

AMY TROOST

Dua Lipa wears satin bra, MIU MIU. *Hand-painted felt headdress,* NERIDA FRAIMAN. *Make-up by* YSL BEAUTY. *Eyes: Lines Liberated, £24. Skin: All Hours Foundation, £42. All Hours Hyper Finish Powder, £46. Lips: Loveshine Candy Glow, £36. Hair by* REDKEN. *Control Hairspray, £24. Pliable Paste, £24. Acidic Color Gloss Heat Protection Leave-In Treatment, £26. Hair:* OLIVIER SCHAWALDER. *Make-up:* YADIM. *Nails:* MICHELLE HUMPHREY. *Photograph:* DAVID SIMS. *Styling:* CAMILLA NICKERSON

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MALICK BODIAN; LOLA & PANI

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Body confidence, books and becoming a bride: DUA LIPA *speaks to Vogue, on page 104*

Never underestimate the power of a good bra, at least that's what I was led to believe as a teenager. Although I quickly discovered that even a good bra – at that time, in the late '90s, the brassiere du jour was unquestionably Wonderbra – has its limits. No amount of padding, prodding or hoisting of my poor little bosom was going to achieve the buoyant pin-up silhouette that I so desperately wanted. It wasn't until I was well into my 20s that I finally ditched push-up bras altogether, embracing my naturally smaller shape via the insouciance of a barely-there bralette. It felt liberating, like a weight off my chest – quite literally – a reminder too that what we decide to wear (or not wear) underneath our clothes can be the most transformative fashion choice we make in a day.

It's perhaps why the recent resurgence of the bullet bra, as modelled by our fantastic cover star, DUA LIPA, has piqued the interest of fashion obsessives like me. The look that recalls the defiant iconoclasm of '90s-era Madonna, and an antidote to the now ubiquitous naked dressing trend, dominated the autumn/winter runways. Mrs Prada, for example, styled her Miu Miu collection almost exclusively with pointy torpedo bras, as they're also known, turning the most recognisable trad-wife codes on their head in one fell swoop.

Few people embody that sense of unbridled feminine energy more than Lipa. Writer GABY WOOD witnessed her colossal star power up close for this month's cover story. Lipa, who turns 30 this summer, is clearly entering her most expansive era yet, both publicly and privately. She talks candidly about her hopes for the future, her desire to deepen the

> 22

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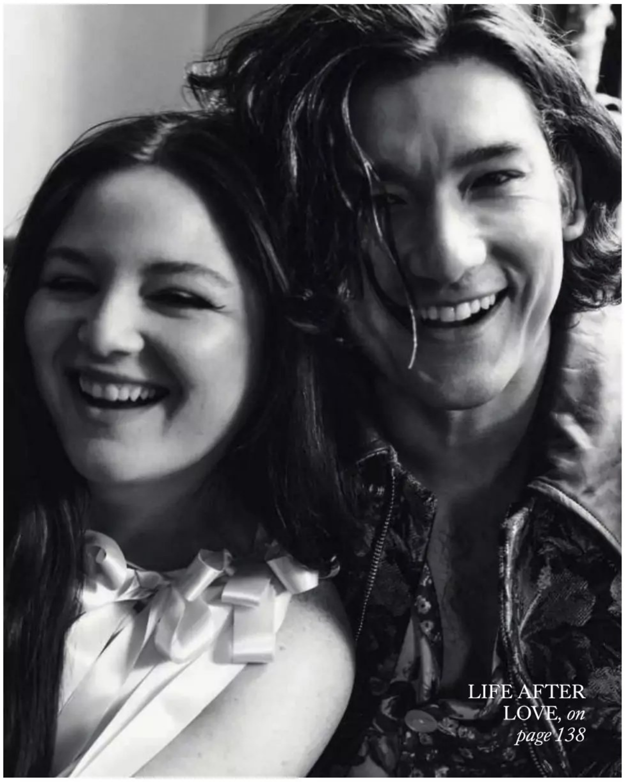
LIFE AFTER LOVE, *on page 138*

familial bonds that have sustained her over the years and her relationship with her fiancé, Callum Turner – one that, much like her meteoric rise to fame, seems to have been written in the stars.

Still, the course of true love doesn't always run smooth – or so the saying goes. This month, in a delightfully charming personal essay, the writer, director and actor LENA DUNHAM chronicles her final misadventures in dating that came before she met The One. Created in partnership with her now husband, Luis Felber, her much-anticipated new series, *Too Much*, which lands on Netflix this July, was directly inspired by her move to London and the love story that followed. Read Dunham's take, and meet the electric cast, on page 138.

From the small screen to the stage: British director JAMIE LLOYD's reimagining of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Evita* is undoubtedly the hottest theatre ticket of the summer. Lloyd, featured in this issue alongside RACHEL ZEGLER (set to play Eva Perón in his new staging), is a towering presence in the West End and on Broadway, and – as writer SARAH CROMPTON discovers, on page 154 – the glimpses into his unconventional creative process and the extraordinary path he's taken to theatre stardom are riveting.

Finally I'm excited to announce a special new initiative launching this month: Vogue Values. Here at British *Vogue* our commitment to harnessing the powers of fashion and culture to offer fresh insight and inspiration for how we all might live better is something myself and the team feel so passionately about. To that end, I'm thrilled that we're partnering with eBay and Nike on a year-long project that will take our storytelling around sustainability, women's health, access to creativity and ensuring a broad spectrum of voices are always heard to new heights. We are kicking off Vogue Values with our inaugural campaign: Fashion is for Everyone. Working alongside charities including Smart Works, which does so much to arm women sartorially for job interviews and beyond, and Give Your Best, whose genius platform allows you to donate clothes directly to women in need, it's a partnership that I hope will demonstrate the power of fashion to transform futures in truly meaningful ways.

On page 62, the model JOURDAN DUNN, one of our brilliant Fashion is for Everyone ambassadors, writes about her experiences of the barriers she experienced as a young woman entering the world of fashion. She sums up our message so well: "It's about confidence, identity and feeling seen... more access, more support and more opportunities for people who feel they've been excluded for too long."

MAESTRO & ME, *on page 154*

Chioma Nnadi

MATT HEALY; DAN JACKSON

COMMANDING THE SCREEN FROM THE FIRST FRAME.
CHARLIZE THERON WEARS THE NAVITIMER.
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MEET & GREET

Introducing THE FACES BEHIND *this month's* ISSUE

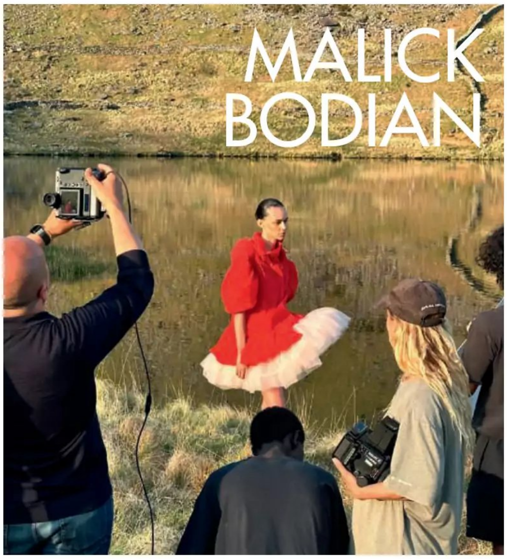
GABY WOOD

"She struck me as warm, serious and full of grace," says chief executive of the Booker Prize Foundation and journalist Gaby Wood of first meeting this month's cover star, Dua Lipa. It was the Prize's 2022 ceremony and Lipa was giving the keynote speech. Since then, "I haven't been surprised to see her basically take over the world," says Wood. "Not just as a pop star but as an empathetic listener and a smart-thinking cultural guide." For her fourth British Vogue cover appearance, Lipa invited Wood for dinner in London and to her concert in Madrid to talk finding love and world domination. "It's always great to see an impressive woman at the height of her powers." Read the full story on page 104.

Lena Dunham

She didn't know it then, but in the aftermath of a mammoth move to Britain in the midst of a global pandemic, deep in the fog of an underwhelming yet painful break-up, Lena Dunham would meet the man who would become her husband. That experience became the catalyst for her new Netflix series, the semiautobiographical romcom Too Much. Ahead of its release in July, Vogue assembled the cast, while Dunham writes about her last fling before finding The One. "You really never know when you're having your last affair," she writes on page 138. "Some of us hope that every frog we kiss is our happy ending, while others stand hand in hand with their soulmate, still terrified of the vista narrowing, the buffet running out, closing time."

Near the picturesque village of Portmeirion in north Wales, model Binx Walton, dressed in a scarlet Simone Rocha tutu ensemble, poses against the banks of Llyn Cwmorthin. Meanwhile, Senegalese photographer Malick Bodian is capturing the tableau, for Peak Season, on page 122. "What I love most about my job is travelling with the right people – those who share your energy. At first, being in Wales felt strange, since it's not where I usually work," says Bodian, "but nature is universal. Surrounded by mountains, fresh air and great people, I felt right at home."



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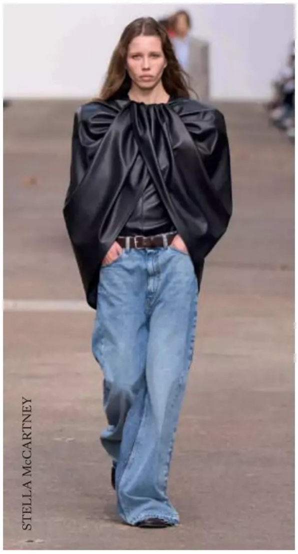
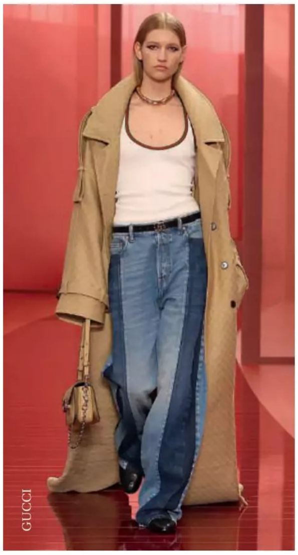
THE DENIM EDIT

Forget STRAIGHT *legs or skinny cuts, capacious* JEANS *ruled the runways, but where to* FIND *your own?* VOGUE SHOPPING *explains all*



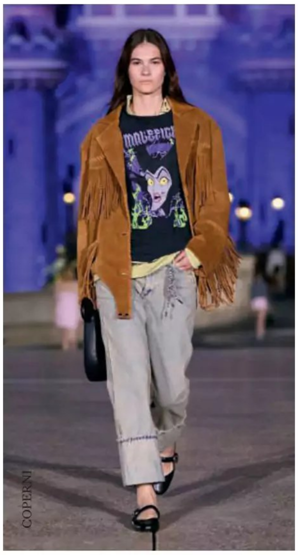
Great strides

When it comes to 24/7 denim, the noughties renaissance set the blueprint. Look to the Stella McCartney runway, where wide-legged cuts paired with an all-eyes-on-me party top and boots really turned heads.



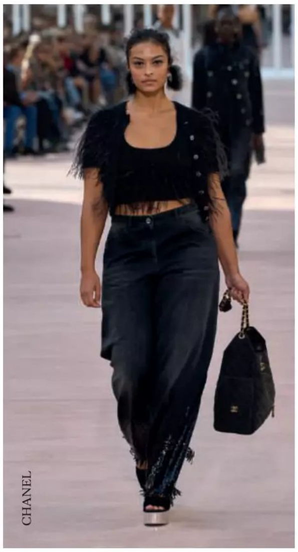
It's a cinch

Belts – conspicuously absent from the collections in recent years – are making a haute return. Opt for a sleek and slimline style (as per Gucci) or invest in something with sturdy appeal (see Jil Sander).



In the fold

Roll up, roll up! Coperni has revived the turn-up. Editor's tip: shop your jeans two inches longer than your usual size, and steam-iron for a DIY ankle-skimming silhouette.



The jet set

Dark washes are ousting light and faded colourways. Considering making the switch? Let Chanel be your inspiration, where charcoal denim put a modern, undone spin on the knitted twinset.

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PUBLISHED BY THE CONDÉ NAST PUBLICATIONS LTD,
THE ADELPHI, 1-11 JOHN ADAM STREET, LONDON WC2N 6HT (020 7499 9080)

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TO THE BRIM

Dusting off the Vogue editor staple of yore, JULIA HOBBS *discovers a crop of bucket* HATS, *cloches and basketball* CAPS *for the season* AHEAD. *Photographs by* AMY TROOST. *Styling by* MAX ORTEGA

I can carbon-date chapters of my life according to certain styles of hat, and the ensuing list reads like a deck of Monopoly Community Chest cards. Starting with my first "job" in fashion: "You're 10 years old, wearing pale pink gingham co-ords and a floppy Blossom hat while earnestly explaining the tenets of Tammy Girl to a market researcher. Collect £10 voucher to cash in at Tammy Girl."

Later in the deck: "Hedi Slimane arrives at Saint Laurent. The models on his s/s 2013 runway wear matching witchy, wide-brimmed fedoras. Advance to Maison Michel's Rue Cambon store and spend half your monthly salary on a Pina hat."

Then, the dreaded card: "You're dating a 30-something Frenchman who lives in Camden and doesn't leave the house without his trilby. Pay a small fortune in therapy fees in a decade's time."

I refuse to abide by the notion that hats are occasion-only. They're not. One should wear a hat with *everyday* mindfulness. They do, after all, talismanically adorn our crown chakra, and (trilbies aside) round off a well-composed look. Plus, once you get into the swing of wearing one, they're hard to take off.

Milliner to royalty and the runway Stephen Jones is devoted to a neat beret. "Something bulletproof is quite good for me," he confesses. "I'm really bad with my hats. I tend to trash them."

Jones, who collaborates with the likes of John Galliano, Marc Jacobs and Rei Kawakubo, has just returned from Kyoto, where he worked on Dior's pre-fall show. Christian Dior himself considered hats to be a continuation of the outfit, Jones adds. The mandate is: a successful hat is one that you don't necessarily "see".

I think of my favourite sheepskin baker boy, which I discovered in a labyrinthine hat shop in Venice during this spring's carnival. I didn't take it off for a week and was reminded how good hats are at hiding our shortcomings. (In my case: brunette roots that shoot between daubings of L'Oréal's Majirel Majirouge in shade 6.66, the hollows beneath my eyes when I have been doomscrolling before an early call time and the 4pm mascara drop.) "In the days of social media, we need as much of a filter as we can get," Jones agrees. "And a hat is the most extreme filter."

He recalls sketching a design for the late Italian *Vogue* writer Anna Piaggi. "She would say, 'Stephen, yes, that's fine, but what about the veil?' She knew no matter which make-up artist she could have, nothing would be as effective or as quick as a veil."

Piaggi's hats were hardy perennials. She wore them year-round, much like British stylist Isabella Blow, who "loathed casual" and wore fascinators to the office – albeit Vogue House. I imagine both Piaggi and Blow would have welcomed the triumphant return of hats for autumn (cc: Chanel, McQueen and Willy Chavarria).

The latest Prada, Loro Piana, Loewe and Louis Vuitton collections likewise testify to the new-era appeal of the OG accessory. In fact, the first edition of British *Vogue*, dated 1916, featured an illustration of four women wearing different styles of hats – two of whom are slumped against a bed and one appears to be entirely keeled over on the floor. Their headgear is still perfectly positioned, however.

Well over a century later, novel iterations of the cloche (and scarlet pouts) are back in *Vogue*. Gen Z's hyper-focus on accessorising has dialed headwear back into the conversation, says stylist Max Ortega. "Young people are thinking about how they 'finish' a look," he continues. "They're paying close attention to the finishing touches, and hats are the ultimate finishing touch. I love the line 'If an outfit is a sentence then the hat is the exclamation mark.'"

The aim isn't to look overtly nostalgic. To cite the Stephen Jones lore: "Fashion works when it's right for now; when it doesn't look like it's from a different century. It makes sense when it's believable."

It certainly feels fitting that the cloche, which underscored the independent femme streak of the Roaring Twenties, should make a reappearance today. Every few days I'll pore over Miu Miu's flapper-coded a/w '25 show on Vogue Runway – the stockings, peep-toes, brooches, bullet bras plus those furtively chic (and politically defiant) hats – marvelling at the Tallulah Bankhead of it all.

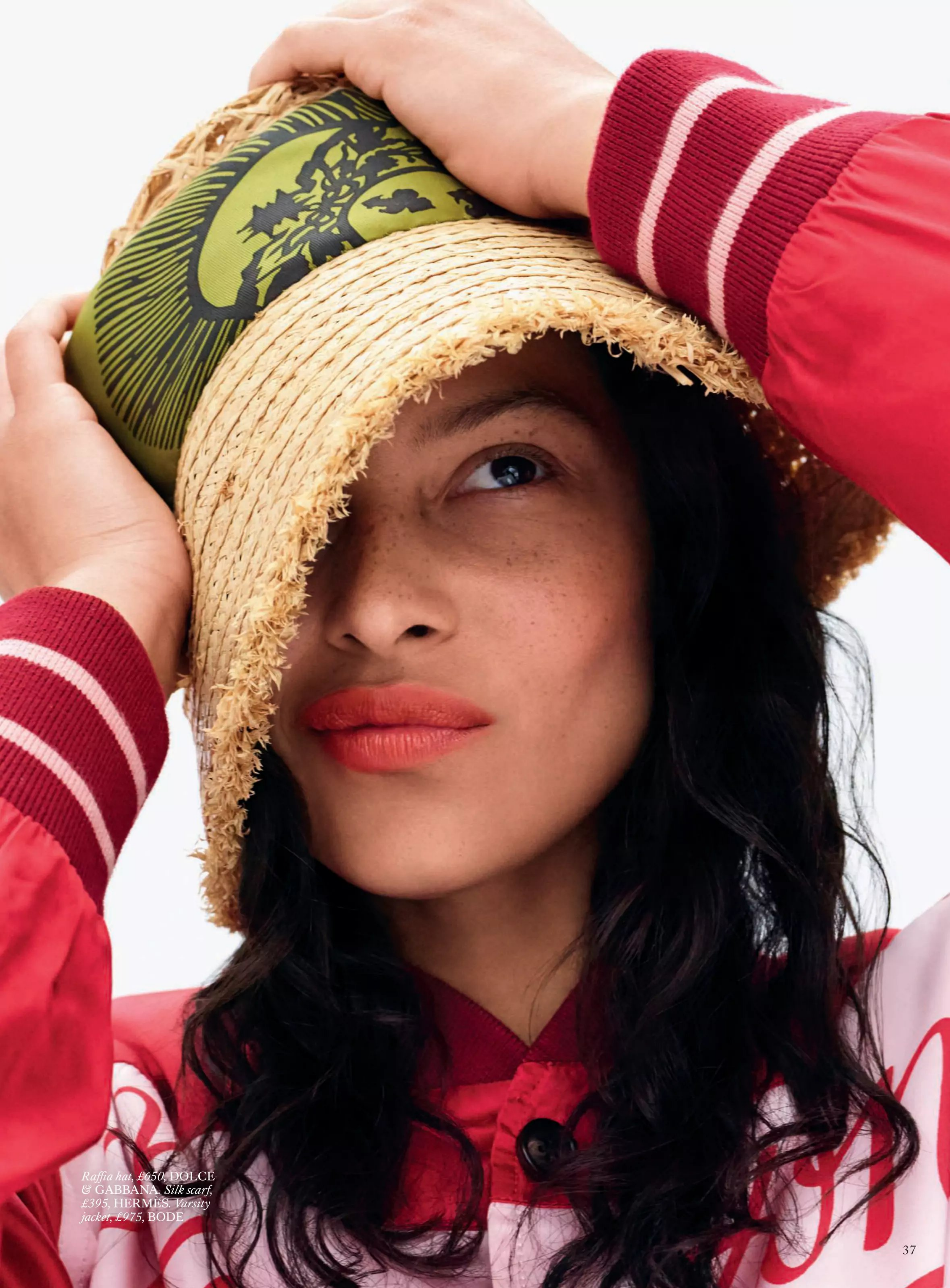
"Well, Miuccia Prada loves hats," Jones is quick to remind me. She's also highly practical. There is, let's be real, a stealth utility to investing in a wearable sun-and-privacy shield. Where, once upon a time, cartwheel hats were the prescribed dress code of the high society's summer season, these new incarnations aren't about status so much as helping us move through the world, warding off UV rays and 4K iPhone cameras.

Sure enough, I recently found myself gazing into the window of LA's Aralda Vintage at two decorative bucket hats – my Vogue baseball cap reflected in the glass. The sun was at its peak. I thought of how I never see any of my West Coast friends without a hat during the afternoon. Shading one's face is, after all, the final step in good skincare.

"The pink one is unlabelled, and the green is Dior," store owner Brynn Jones explained. "They feel like sculptural works of art that happen to be for sale – they decorate the shop just as much as they're part of the inventory. And when someone does buy one, it's almost always someone distinctive who leaves a lasting impression."

Is there a particular decade in millinery that's seeing a resurgence? "Our most sought-after hats tend to be from the 1960s, and our clients gravitate towards ones with no label at all," she said. "There's a certain mystery and individuality to them that seems to resonate."

Could there be an emerging market in preloved witchy, wide-brimmed fedoras from s/s 2013, I wonder. Those therapy fees won't pay themselves – and you never know which hat card you're destined to pull from the deck next.



Raffia hat, £650, DOLCE & GABBANA. *Silk scarf, £395,* HERMÈS. *Varsity jacket, £975,* BODE

From left: Divine wears raffia hat, £1,100. Cotton top, £870. Both PRADA. *Peng wears raffia hat, £1,100,* PRADA. *Minidress, £950,* SPORTMAX. *Devyn wears silk hat, £7,170,* LORO PIANA. *Latex polo shirt, £350,* KEOGH DEWAR

From left: Devyn wears hand-crocheted hat, £1,150, DIOR MEN. *Tank dress, £330,* STAUD. *Divine wears raffia hat with charms, £690,* LOUIS VUITTON *&* MURAKAMI. *Nubuck dress, £9,020,* HERMÈS. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information.* *Hair:* LUCAS WILSON. *Make-up:* DICK PAGE. *Nails:* MICHINA KOIDE. *Set design:* PIERS HANMER. *Production:* ARTPRODUCTION. *Models:* PENG CHANG, DEVYN GARCIA, DIVINE MUGISHA, PENELOPE TERNES

28.03
MALDIVES

Your moment in the Maldives.

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JUMEIRAH
OLHAHALI ISLAND

From this day forth, will
anything less than a
Balenciaga gown do?

*Backless crepe dress, from
£3,910,* BALENCIAGA

THE CATCH

Be it flirtatious lengths, FLORAL *lace or courthouse* COATS*, designers propose a* BOUQUET *of styles for brides. The only* THORN? *Settling for* ONE...
Photographs by BEN TOMS. *Styling by* JESSICA GERARDI

Prada's floral mini offers a fresh counterpoint to floor-sweeping lengths.

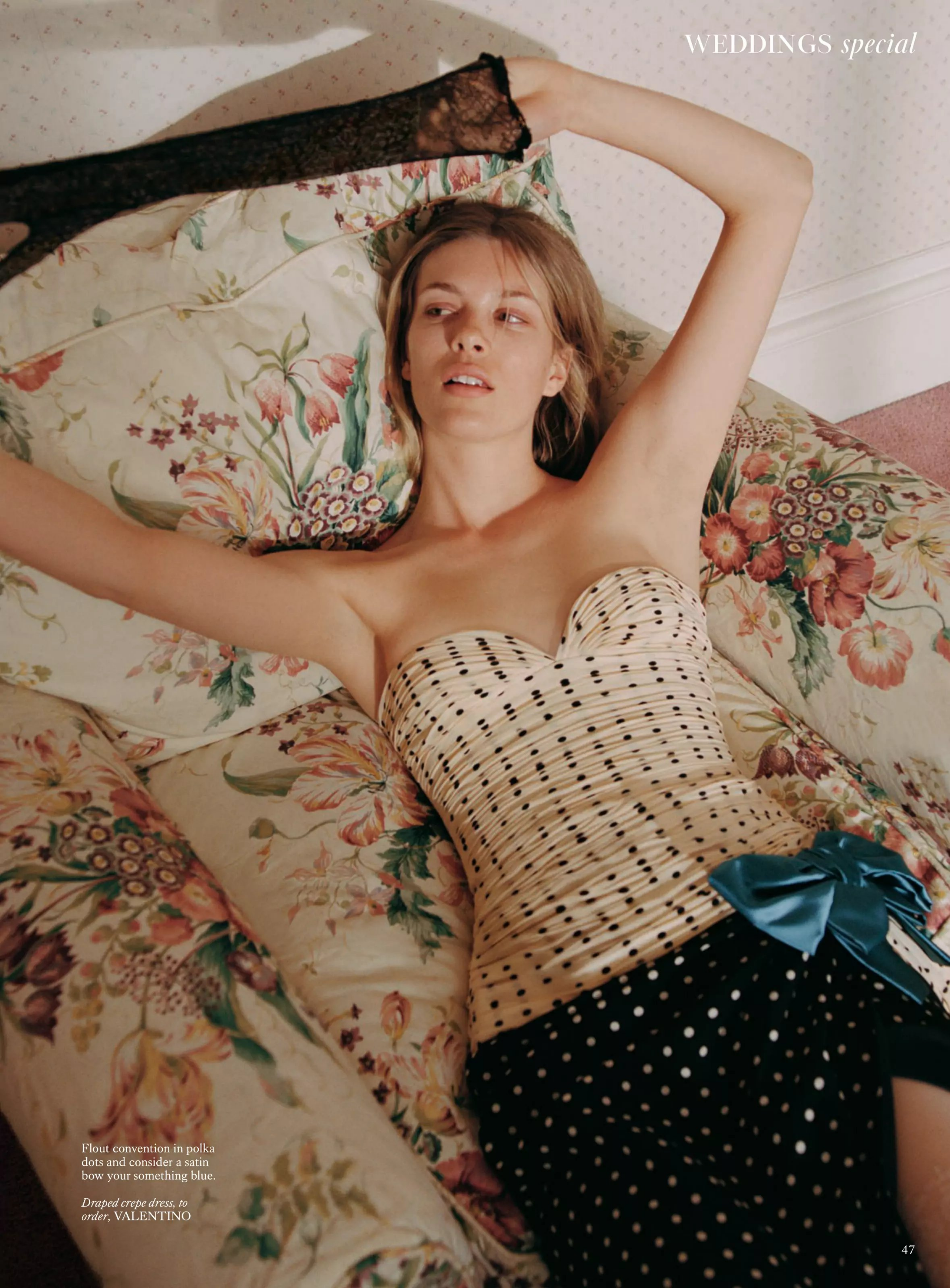
Cotton minidress with lace trim, £1,610, PRADA. *Veil, to order,* GALIA LAHAV

Behold a future heirloom from Alaïa, destined to be passed down the family tree.

Knitted coat, to order, ALAÏA

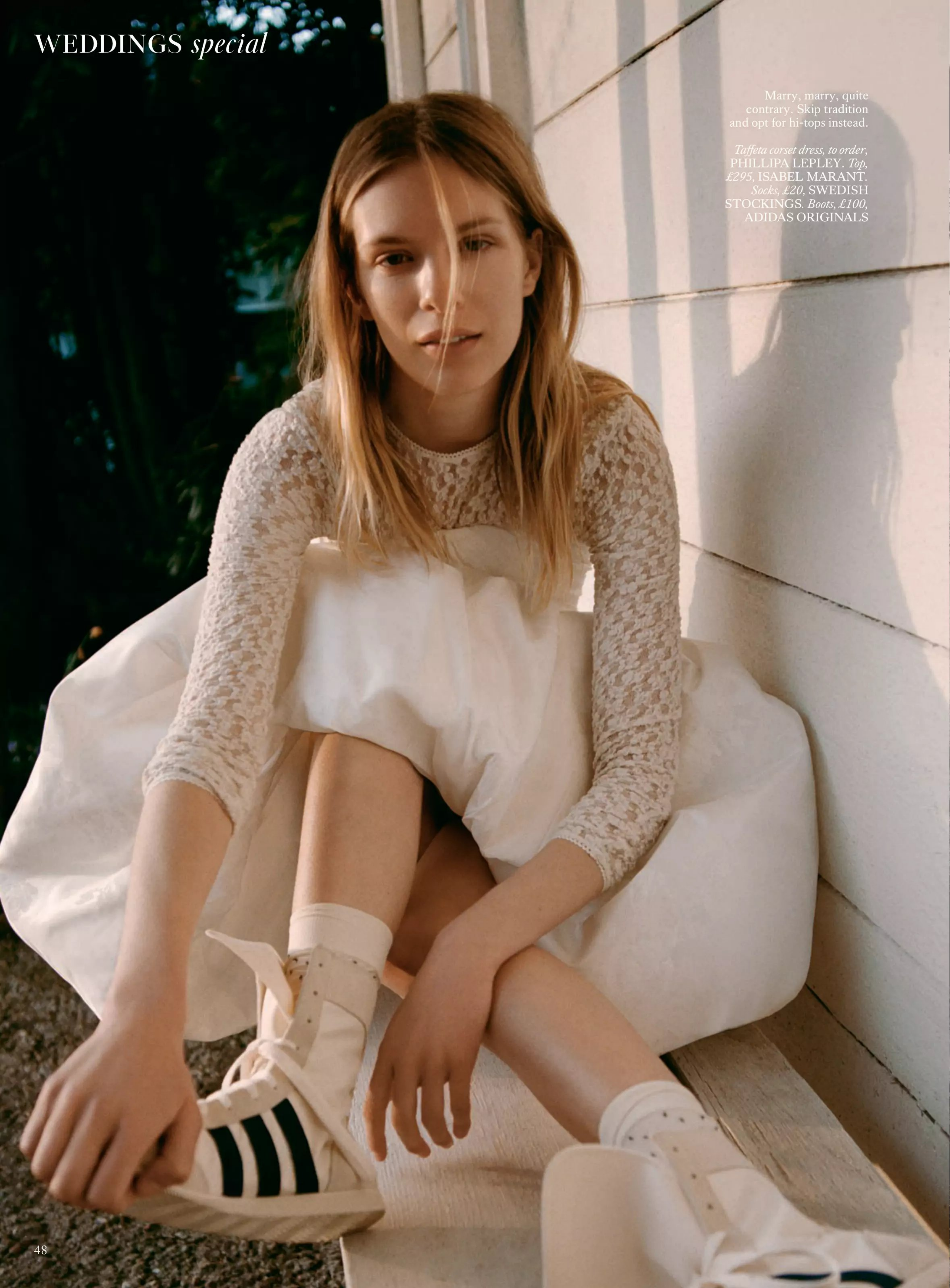
No train, no gain. An era-spanning ensemble exists on its own romantic timeline.

Tulle and lace corset dress, to order, VIVIENNE WESTWOOD COUTURE. *Capri pants, £1,215*, DILARA FINDIKOGLU



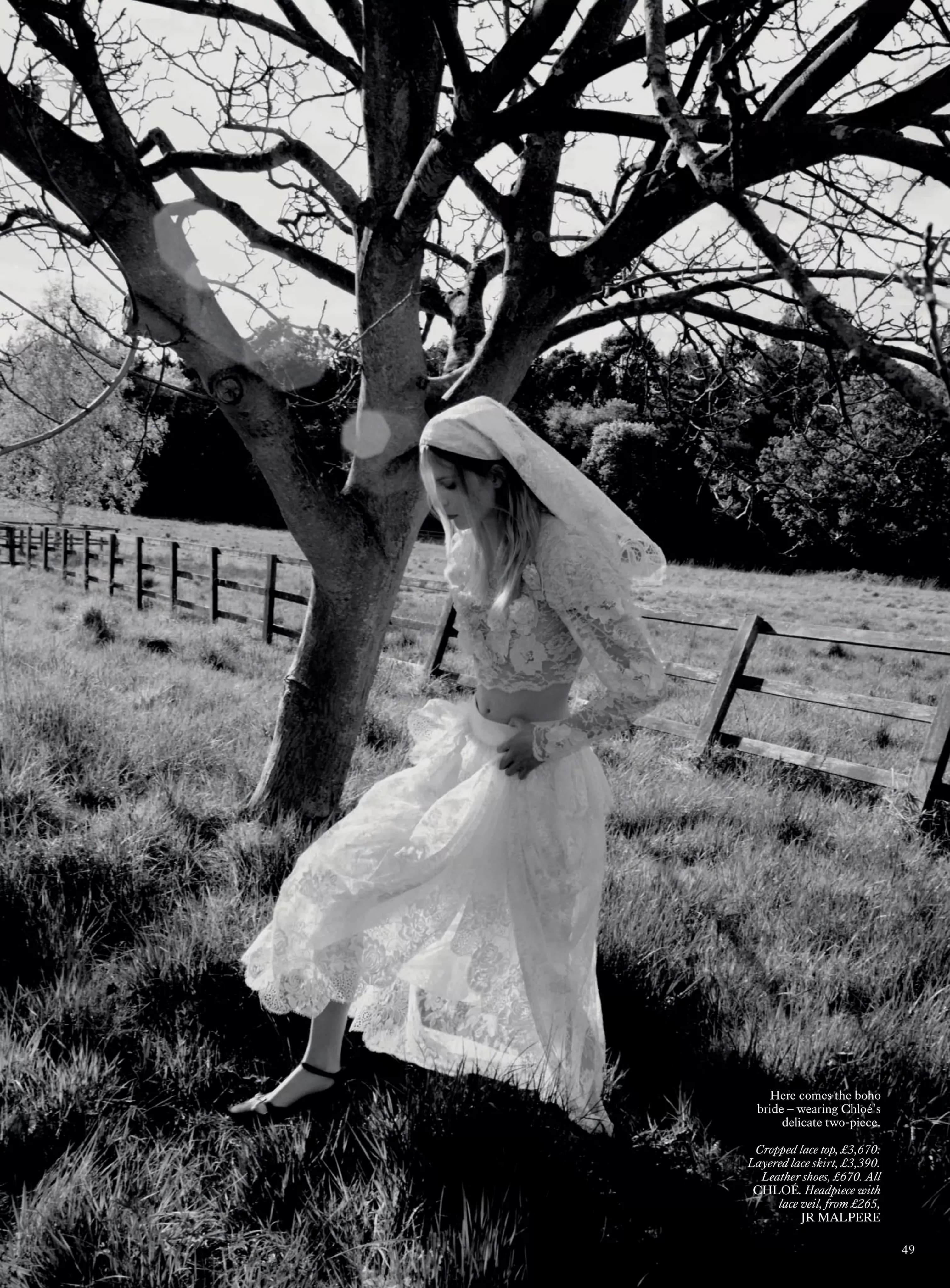
Flout convention in polka dots and consider a satin bow your something blue.

Draped crepe dress, to order, VALENTINO



Marry, marry, quite contrary. Skip tradition and opt for hi-tops instead.

Taffeta corset dress, to order, PHILLIPA LEPLEY. *Top, £295,* ISABEL MARANT. *Socks, £20,* SWEDISH STOCKINGS. *Boots, £100,* ADIDAS ORIGINALS

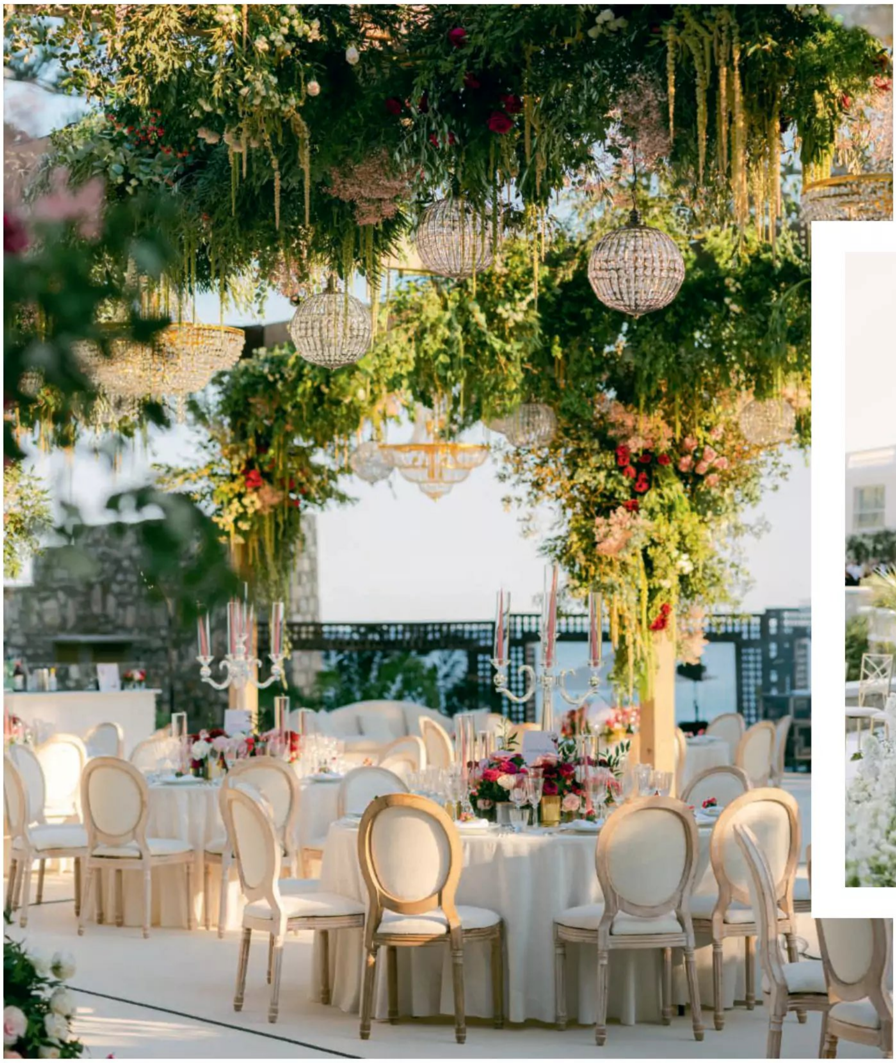


Here comes the boho bride – wearing Chloé's delicate two-piece.

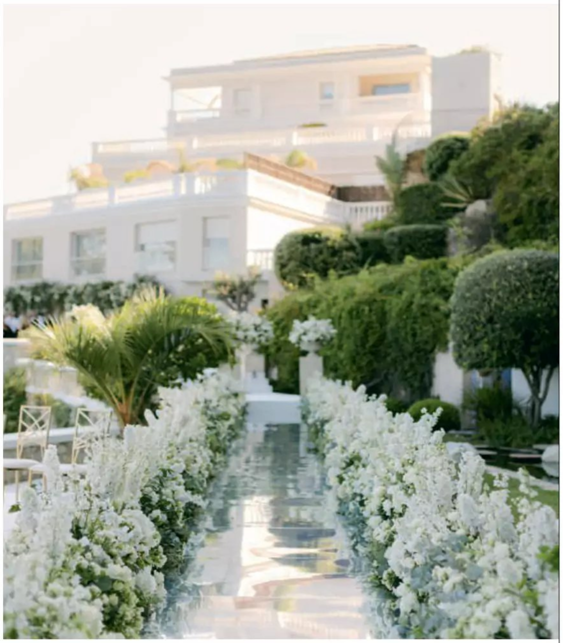
Cropped lace top, £3,670. Layered lace skirt, £3,390. Leather shoes, £670. All CHLOÉ. *Headpiece with lace veil, from £265,* JR MALPERE

Tie the knot – not to mention the Marc Jacobs bow – in a shade of cloudiest pink.

Dress, from £2,605, MARC JACOBS, *at Bergdorfgoodman.com. For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information. Hair:* NAOKI KOMIYA. *Make-up:* BEA SWEET. *Nails:* ROBBIE TOMKINS. *Set design:* HARRY STAYT. *Model:* FREYA NUTTER. *With thanks to McQueens Flowers, W1*



A wedding organised by GSP Events at Cap Estel in Èze, France



IN THE DETAILS

GSP EVENTS *specialises in turning* WEDDING *fantasies into* SPECTACULAR *reality*

A WEDDING IS the ultimate celebration, the opportunity to bring together the most important people in your and your partner's lives, and mark the occasion in the most magical and memorable way possible. That's where award-winning wedding design and planning agency GSP Events comes in, calling upon nearly three decades of expertise in bringing couples' dreams to life.

Internationally recognised for its unrivalled innovation, creativity and experience, GSP Events has curated breathtaking weddings across the world, from intimate soirees on private islands to multiday extravaganzas in the rolling Tuscan hills or in the agency's second home, the South of France. No challenge is too great – trust us, they've chair-lifted guests to an Alpine reception in Gstaad before – and there's no detail too minor, meaning that you can trust every aspect of your wedding will be as creatively and meticulously considered as you deserve.

As the name whispered among the most discerning clientele, GSP Events has worked with luxury brands, royalty and celebrities alike, maintaining loyal relationships with both clients and suppliers. Their little black book is second to none and, since they hold official supplier status at some of the world's finest wedding venues, their passionate and talented team can realise even your most outlandish wedding fantasies – no just isn't an option. A candlelit dinner in a 12th-century abbey? A 300-plus drone show over the Mediterranean? They've done it all. The team loves to take on a challenge and, while you're enjoying the spectacle and soaking up every magical moment, they'll be working unobtrusively in the background to ensure everything runs seamlessly. By building a trusting and open relationship with clients, the team ensures you don't have to worry about a thing.

All you have to do is enjoy yourselves with your loved ones and watch as your wildest wedding fantasies become reality. *Discover more at Gsp-uk.com, on Instagram @Gspltd and via email at Sales@gsp-uk.com*

IN THE GLOW

For WEDDING *skin preparation that involves* IMPRESSIVE SKIN-CLEARING, *glow-giving results with no pain or downtime, look to* HYDRAFACIAL

It GENTLY *and painlessly removes* IMPURITIES *from the skin's* SURFACE, *while simultaneously* HYDRATING *the skin with nourishing* NUTRIENTS

A WEDDING COUNTDOWN involves all manner of preparation, including the eventual acceptance that some things are simply beyond your control. Getting your skin to its best possible state, however, is not one of those ungovernable factors. Achieving a clear, glowing complexion in time for your wedding is eminently possible – if you know which products and treatments to turn to, that is. When it comes to painless options with immediate, as well as long-term, results, Hydrafacial is the name to know.

Something of a modern classic, Hydrafacial has become a favourite among aestheticians, celebrities, editors and "skinthusiasts" across the globe. Its popularity is likely down to the fact that it deeply cleanses, extracts and hydrates the skin in three simple steps, all in less than 60 minutes and with no downtime to speak of.

Little wonder, then, it's particularly popular with brides-to-be, who turn to its transformative powers and ability to enhance skin health with regular appointments in the run-up to the big day. It's also a popular choice with grooms, other members of the wedding party and even wedding guests, who, like celebrities looking for a pre-red carpet boost, use it to get event-ready.

The treatment uses a hand-piece powered by vacuum technology, which delivers a unique hydradermabrasion technique that works via patented Vortex Fusion technology. In layman's terms, that means the tool gently and painlessly removes impurities from the skin's surface, while simultaneously hydrating the skin with nourishing nutrients.

Unfailingly, the result includes an enviable glow, but every Hydrafacial treatment can be personalised in manifold ways to target various skin dilemmas. Add-on boosters have been created in collaboration with some of the industry's most sought-after brands, including Murad, Epicutis and Dr Dennis Gross. Other additional features include lymphatic therapy, LED light therapy and peels at various strengths, all of which can be added to the treatment to maximise personalisation and results. Perhaps the most intriguing element of all is the fact that the impurities extracted from the skin are collected in the infamous "gunkie jar" and revealed at the end of the treatment. There's undeniable satisfaction in seeing this and, perhaps unsurprisingly, it's become a hit on social media.

There are plenty of copycat devices and tools on the market, but only highly trained and authorised Hydrafacial providers can be trusted to deliver the best results, and these can be identified on the brand's useful Find A Provider network. For a wedding, or any important day for that matter, turn to the considerable powers of Hydrafacial.

For more information, visit Hydrafacial.co.uk

MAKING IT COUNT

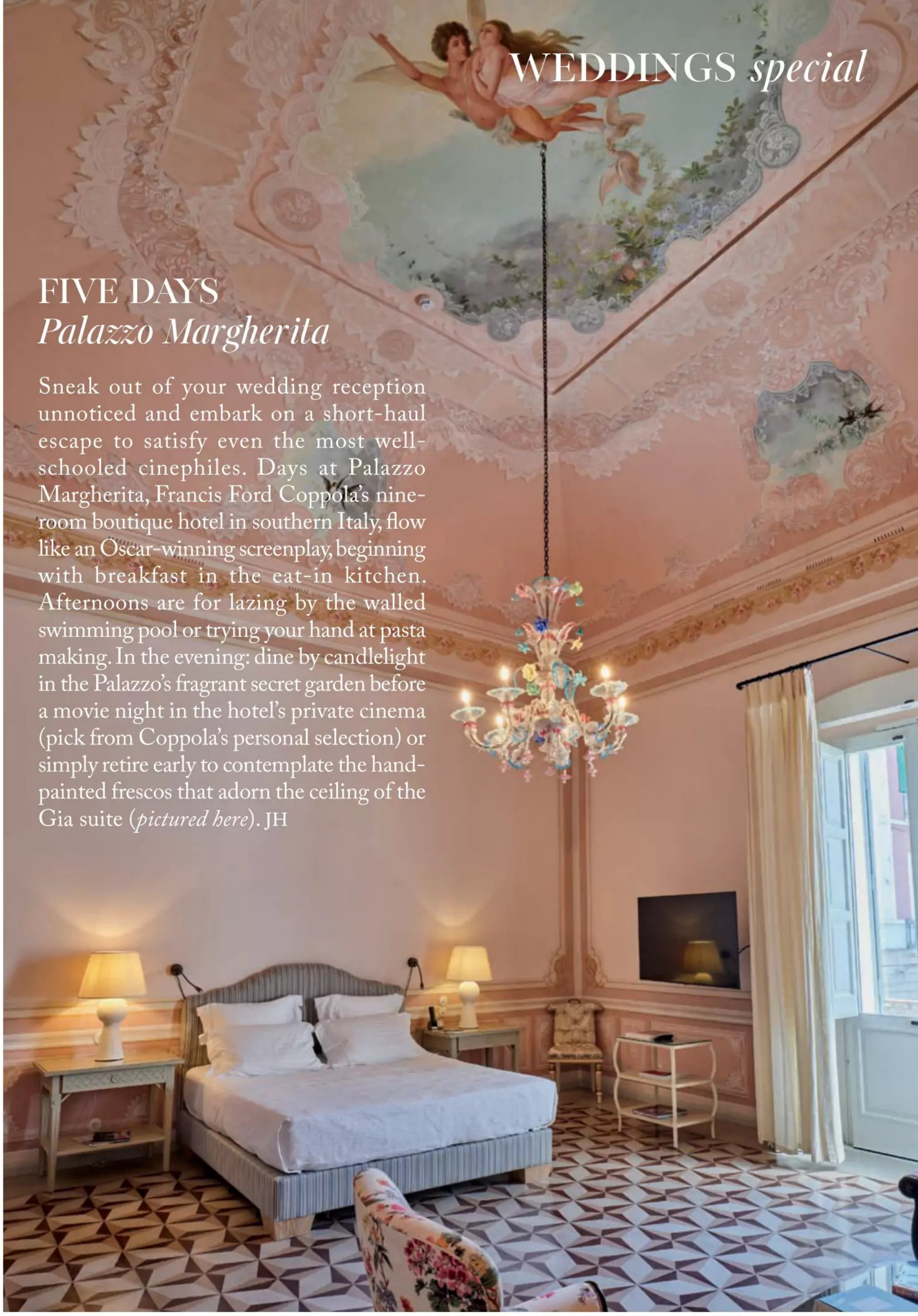
However long you have for your HONEYMOON, *Vogue's guide guarantees the trip of a* LIFETIME

THREE DAYS
Belmond Britannic Explorer train

The shortest of 'moons needn't be any less memorable. Belmond's *Britannic Explorer* (*above*) – the first luxury sleeper in England and Wales – takes in the romance (and drama) of the Lake District, Cornish coastline and the Welsh valleys. Check in to one of the train's luxury suites and gaze out at the heart-stopping views from the cloud-like comfort of your bed. JULIA HOBBS

SEVEN DAYS
Casina Cinquepozzi

Keep the wedding celebrations going and plot a week-long "friendsmoon" at Casina Cinquepozzi, an uber-stylish manor house in the heart of Italy's Puglia region. Begin your morning wandering around the neighbouring villages of distinctive cone-shaped trulli cottages, hop over to the beach for a splash in the Adriatic, then return for a dinner of fresh orecchiette pasta and grilled fish prepared by a private chef. Your friends can thank you later. LIAM HESS



FIVE DAYS
Palazzo Margherita

Sneak out of your wedding reception unnoticed and embark on a short-haul escape to satisfy even the most well-schooled cinephiles. Days at Palazzo Margherita, Francis Ford Coppola's nine-room boutique hotel in southern Italy, flow like an Oscar-winning screenplay, beginning with breakfast in the eat-in kitchen. Afternoons are for lazing by the walled swimming pool or trying your hand at pasta making. In the evening: dine by candlelight in the Palazzo's fragrant secret garden before a movie night in the hotel's private cinema (pick from Coppola's personal selection) or simply retire early to contemplate the hand-painted frescos that adorn the ceiling of the Gia suite (*pictured here*). JH

TEN DAYS
The Brando

For power couples that prize seclusion and view their precious time off as an opportunity to immerse themselves in nature, The Brando (*left*), a luxury private island hideaway surrounded by miles of Pacific Ocean, was once the Polynesian retreat of Marlon Brando and today delivers spoiling five-star treatment sustainably. The resort (a 20-minute hop from Tahiti) is protected by a live-in conservation society painstakingly dedicated to its marine ecosystems. With former presidents and music moguls on the roster of returning guests, few destinations hold the promise of a transformative reset quite like The Brando. Loved-up newlyweds can stargaze to their heart's content and picnic on the shores of "the Queen's bath", a restorative seawater swimming spot adored by Tahitian royalty. JH

TWO WEEKS
Abercrombie & Kent Pure Amazon riverboat

If you're seeking the ultimate bucket-list honeymoon, make a beeline for Peru. The legendary white-glove travel company Abercrombie & Kent will soon be unveiling *Pure Amazon*, a new state-of-the-art riverboat offering wildlife sightings, spa treatments and freshly prepared ceviche right in the heart of the world's largest jungle. Tack on a stay at Sanctuary Lodge, Machu Picchu, to visit the ancient Inca citadel at sunrise as you eke out every last moment of your once-in-a-lifetime trip. LH

PIÈCE DE RÉSISTANCE

Gluten-free with GASP *factor? Vegan and in vogue? Baker* CLAIRE PTAK *proves a* TOP-TIER *wedding cake can* CATER *to all. Photograph by* ALEX PAGANELLI

It's every happy couple's nightmare. You've tied the knot, survived the speeches (without anyone dredging up anything too incriminating) and cut the wedding cake… only for half your guests to stare at their slices like vegetarians who've been served chopped liver. Swap-outs and substitutes are easy enough to navigate for main plates, but it's far trickier to satisfy the dietaries and the taste buds with the cake. And, despite spending an inordinate amount on a baked good, you somehow forgot that your aunt is now certain she's coeliac (despite the many times you've spotted her in the queue at Cedric Grolet) and your maid of honour has given up dairy (after years as a raw milk evangelist).

It's no secret that fashion folk are as picky with their food as they are with their looks – planning a wedding with any number of them in attendance is no mean feat. Could, therefore, British *Vogue* staffers have the solution for a cake that caters to even the fussiest of eaters, while still looking (and, crucially, tasting) the part?

Claire Ptak

A whip-around office poll was unanimous. "Call Claire Ptak," the cheery Californian founder of east London's Violet bakery and the fashion set's de facto queen of cakes. Her latest venture is the secret café on the top floor of Alaïa's New Bond Street boutique and when I stop by her flagship on Dalston's Wilton Way I spot that she's wearing a pair of the brand's viral ballet flats with her white baker's overall, sleeves rolled up, over a pair of camo Corteiz cargo pants.

While Ptak doesn't necessarily specialise in making wedding cakes – though she did spend a "traumatic" stint working for someone who did at the start of her career – she proved her pedigree on a global scale in 2018, when she was revealed as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex's baker of choice. For their nuptials, the couple opted for Violet's signature lemon and elderflower sponge. (They didn't have too many gluten- and dairy-free guests to factor in, it would seem – 2018 was a simpler time!)

"Today, we've made you a pistachio cake," Ptak says, gesturing towards the seven-stack tower perched on the bakery's steel counter. With sponges created using a hybrid of two recipes from her *Love is a Pink Cake* book, it combines the pillowy texture of the gluten-free Bubble cake with the California cake, Violet's plant-based bestseller. "Granted, this particular cake isn't vegan, as we've used eggs, but is dairy and gluten free," the baker explains, noting that making it vegan would be as simple as swapping the eggs for a flax-based substitute.

With its layers sandwiched with plant-based buttercream – and supported by an internal architecture of card platforms and wooden dowels to support its roughly 10kg weight – the shaping begins, with Violet's sous chef, Adam Urbanik, hewing away at the baked behemoth like a sculptor chiselling marble.

Watching curls of sponge fall away, I'm immediately struck by the cake's visible moistness – there's no hint of telltale GF crumbliness, and a spring to the touch that feels just like… well, a *really* good sponge. So what's the secret? "With this one, nuts make it a lot moister," Ptak explains, noting that their fat content also helps.

"My original recipe uses ground almonds, but we wanted to use pistachio – the flavour's so moreish and it just feels more special for a wedding," even if that does come at a cost. ("It's not an everyday nut!") Her particular flour combination is also key. "It's brown rice flour, sorghum and tapioca," with Ptak crediting the latter for the cake's featherlightness.

Lastly, once the domed gateaux is slathered in painterly slaps of (sadly not vegan) Swiss meringue and festooned with pale tulip petals, it's time for the taste test. At the very first forkful, what surprises is both the lightness of the crumb *and* its structural integrity – no mealiness to speak of at all. The pistachio brings both a rich moistness and a faint marzipan-y perfume that sets off wedding bells in my mind, while the mallow-y coating gives a welcome sugary kick without triggering the sort of glucose spike that'll put you out of commission for the rest of the day. In plainer terms, it takes the cake.

"Is there any sort of dietary-specific wedding cake that Ptak can't make?" I wonder… The answer? Yes. Yes, there are. "We love to work with a client to do something really bespoke, but generally I maintain the policy that we make the cakes that we think are the best – the best flavours, the best colours, the best decorations – and then customers can choose from our offering," which, mind you, is already very comprehensive.

So if a 10-tier keto cake is what you're after, best to give Violet a miss. But if GF, DF, vegan and even low sugar are among the boxes you're looking to tick – while making sure the damn thing still tastes good – then voilà: you really *can* have your cake and eat it. MAHORO SEWARD

CAKE STAND, LSA INTERNATIONAL. SET DESIGN: ALFIE DI TROLIO. WITH THANKS TO VIOLET BAKERY.
JON GORRIGAN

PICTURE PERFECT

LUXURY *wedding planners* LA FÊTE *make dreams a reality, from multiday* CELEBRATIONS *at* ROYAL *palaces to* A-LIST *entertainment*

THERESA KELLY

This page and opposite: throughout rolling Tuscan hills, a La Fête-organised wedding, hosting around 70 guests, drew on the region's bucolic setting for inspiration

There's a reason why we refer to weddings as the "big day" in someone's life. A rare opportunity to celebrate your love story with your nearest and dearest, it's one of those milestones that you want to always be able to look back on fondly. For many of us, it's something that we've dreamt of our entire lives, from a fairy-tale setting to the perfect dress, a performance from our favourite pop star to a helicopter arrival. But as anyone who has organised a wedding knows, it's a full-time job. Which is why discerning couples with ambitions for multiday international extravaganzas have professional wedding planners La Fête on speed dial.

> *Discerning* COUPLES *with ambitions for* MULTIDAY *international extravaganzas have professional wedding planners* LA FÊTE *on speed dial*

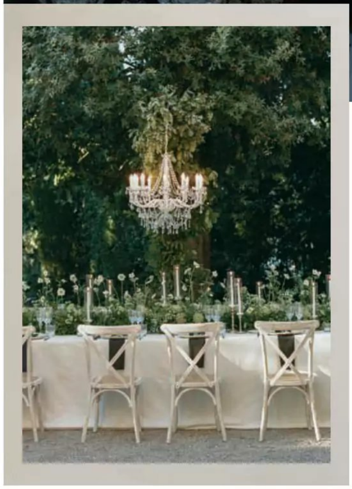
With a background in luxury fashion (including stints at Dior and Tom Ford), Charlotte Ricard-Quesada founded La Fête in 2016 to cater to ultra high net worth individuals who wanted to make their dream events a reality. Fluent in English, French, Spanish and Italian, Ricard-Quesada specialises in multilingual, multicultural celebrations, with experience of organising luxurious nuptials across Europe with specific insights for France, Spain and Italy – and the trusted top-tier vendor contacts to prove it.

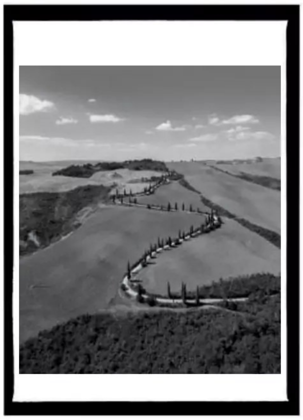
For many of La Fête's clients, it's the location that is the most important thing, establishing the mood, aesthetic and tone for the whole wedding. That's why Ricard-Quesada and her team draw up detailed plans – everything from building blueprints to the location of a helipad – to ensure it truly is the perfect setting, offering guidance every step of the way. Previous clients have celebrated their weddings in locations as varied and glamorous as Louis XV's châteaux in France, private Italian villas and even Hampton Court Palace, with multiday ceremonies being something of a speciality too.

After refining the aesthetic, colour palette, menu and everything else, it's then on to all the other details that make a wedding day spectacular: from securing A-list artists for musical entertainment to organising fleets of cars or private jets, the sky really is the limit. And they are also there to coordinate dress and tuxedo fittings, schedule treatment appointments and arrange travel and accommodation too, so that every last detail in the run-up to the wedding is taken care of with discretion.

While leaning on Ricard-Quesada and her team's expertise and contact book is one thing, it's their seamless approach and can-do attitude that happy couples most appreciate. Meticulously organised, every event is expertly curated with detailed breakdowns of the budget, so that brides and grooms never feel out of the loop, while there's also a timeline of what happens when, plus contingency plans for any last-minute hiccups. What's more, the team will be on hand at the event itself to ensure everything goes smoothly, so that you don't need to worry about a single thing. At the end of the day, it's your "big day", after all – so why not make it perfect?

Discover more at La-fete.com





La Foce in
Tuscany, Italy

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
Charlotte Tilbury
AIRBRUSH FLAWLESS SETTING SPRAY
PARTY ALL NIGHT STAY ALL DAY!
AIR BRUSH
UN MAQUILLAGE PARFAIT TOUT AU LONG DE LA JOURNÉE JUSQU'AU BOUT DE LA NUIT!

WEDDING BELLES

6.
Charlotte Tilbury

Why in-the-know BRIDES-TO-BE *turn to* CHARLOTTE TILBURY *for their wedding day skincare and* MAKE-UP

FOR THE MAJORITY of brides, the brief is relatively simple for their wedding day beauty: they want to look like the best version of themselves. That's why beauty editors recommend Charlotte Tilbury's eponymous beauty brand to brides-to-be. Renowned for creating products that emphasise natural beauty, her Pillow Talk collection for lips, eyes and cheeks has become a go-to for the A-list, with past brides including Kate Moss, Amal Clooney, Sabrina Elba and Poppy Delevingne all turning to her for their flawless wedding day looks.

Created in shades of nude pink, Pillow Talk acts as a beautifying filter that looks good on all skin tones. Choose between the Matte Revolution Lipstick in Pillow Talk Original, available in four shades, for a matte look or the Plumpgasm gloss, which helps you to achieve fuller, wider-looking lips; use the Pillow Talk Luxury Palette to give you bigger, brighter-looking eyes; and finish with the Airbrush Flawless Finish powder, available in four flattering shades, to give you that fresh, youthful glow – the very definition of a blushing bride. A spritz of Airbrush Flawless Setting Spray keeps everything in place, all day long.

More than just a make-up brand, Charlotte Tilbury knows that in order to create that perfect glowing bridal look, you need a great base. This is where her Magic Cream comes in, which is clinically proven to make skin look smoother and firmer, making make-up last longer* – an essential for your wedding day.

Unsure where to start? Book a one-to-one appointment in-store with a Charlotte Tilbury expert via Charlottetilbury.com, who can give you bespoke tips and tricks, including shade matching and bridal make-up trials. The brand also offers bespoke wedding day make-up via the Charlotte Tilbury Bridal Makeup Experience, allowing you to have your very own bridal artist on hand from day to night – particularly great if you're changing into a party look.

Discover more at Charlottetilbury.com. To book a bridal artist for your wedding day, email bridalenquiries@charlottetilbury.com

1. CHARLOTTE TILBURY *Pillow Talk Big Lip Plumpgasm, £27. 2. Pillow Talk Luxury Palette, £46. 3. Charlotte's Magic Cream Moisturiser, from £28. 4. Airbrush Flawless Setting Spray, from £20. 5. Matte Revolution Lipstick in Pillow Talk Original, £29. 6. Airbrush Flawless Finish, £39*

*93 PER CENT OF USERS REPORT MAKE-UP STAYED LUMINOUS ALL DAY

RUNAWAY BRIDE

Stepping into a MINI? *Herewith the pre-wedding* LEG *care to ensure maximum* IMPACT

When it came to selecting a dress for her late summer wedding at London's Old Marylebone Town Hall, make-up artist Celia Burton was adamant it shouldn't conceal her legs. "One of my favourite films growing up was *High Society*. Grace Kelly's dress at the end of the film, a beautifully embroidered white tea-length number, inspired my own," she says of her abbreviated gown, which featured a gathered skirt finished with a 1950s-style hem. "While I've not always had the best relationship with my body, one feature I can rely on are my ankles. I've got good ankles, so I had to show them off!"

Burton, it seems, is far from alone in swerving traditional floor-skimming tulle. Sales of shorter wedding dresses are up 20 per cent on Vogue.co.uk and celebrity brides such as Sofia Richie Grainge have opted to defy convention with short 'n' sweet bridal looks. Which brings us to grooming. Opting for a dinkier wedding dress offers the chance to indulge in some extra leg work. Burton credits Pilates teacher Sophie-Rose Harper's bespoke programme The Board with helping her discover her lower-body muscle tone. But the quest for praise-worthy pins doesn't begin and end in the gym. A series of lymphatic drainage treatments will work wonders in the run up to your big day. Brazilian expert Flavia Morellato's Magic Hands technique eliminates excess fluid so your legs will feel as light as air for your first dance.

And should you want to mimic the firming effects of an exercise regime (minus the treadmill), stock up on Murad Retinal ReSculpt Body Treatment – with encapsulated retinal to stimulate skin's metabolism, it improves elasticity, hydrates and softens. If you're especially committed to the cause, I'd suggest investing in FAQ 411 Microcurrent Red LED Body Toning Device. It uses cutting-edge microcurrent and red-light technology to firm the skin and tone muscles. Then: put your feet up and soak up the compliments.

"I have to say, my legs looked particularly good on my wedding day," admits Burton. "My bridesmaid and great friend Adwoa Aboah, who has a thing for calves, commented on them more than once." GEORGIA DAY

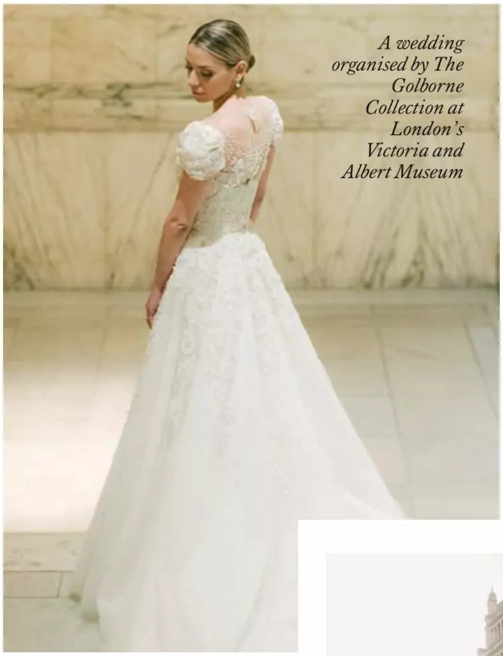
From left: SOL DE JANEIRO *Beija Flor Elasti-Body Oil, £52.* ST TROPEZ *Luxe Body Serum, £35.* VITA LIBERATA *Body Blur, £33.* FAQ *411 Microcurrent Red LED Body Toning Device, £369.* MURAD *Retinal ReSculpt Body Treatment, £79.* PHILIPS *Lumea IPL Hair Removal 9000 Series, £350*

LARISSA HOFMANN

Clockwise from top left: dress, £3,850, VIVIENNE WESTWOOD. *Earrings, price on request,* BOGHOSSIAN. *Shoes, £725,* JIMMY CHOO. *Bag, £5,550,* LOUIS VUITTON. *Ring, price on request,* BOODLES. *Skirt, £275. Top, £275. Both* NADINE MERABI. *Shoes, £985,* MANOLO BLAHNIK. *Tiara, price on request,* CHAUMET

ALTAR PIECES

Find your SPARKLE *by putting a modern* SPIN *on tradition. Edited by* STRATOULA NASIOULA



A wedding organised by The Golborne Collection at London's Victoria and Albert Museum

A DAY TO REMEMBER

DISCERNING *couples* ENTRUST *their wedding planning to* THE GOLBORNE COLLECTION, *whose* EXPERTISE *sees them securing London's most* ICONIC *venues*

THERE IS SOMETHING particularly magical about getting married in London. Whether it's where you grew up, or the place that you met, or just somewhere that you love as a couple, the capital is guaranteed to provide an iconic backdrop. Yet securing one of London's most famous venues for your nuptials can be a daunting prospect for any bride-to-be, making that dream of a soiree at Kensington Palace feel out of reach.

That's where The Golborne Collection comes in. The experts in seamless event planning in London, they have previously produced elegant parties for luxury brands and are the recommended planners at some of the city's most iconic venues, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, Natural History Museum, The Wallace Collection and National Gallery. With previous brides having tied the knot everywhere from Claridge's to Somerset House, you know you're in safe hands.

With more than 40 years of experience, co-founders Natalia Hollingsworth and Sarah Kay are renowned for their calm, detailed approach – essential qualities for organising events in some of London's most complex settings. From designing the look and feel to managing the budget and external vendors, they are undaunted, allowing you to sit back and relax while your dream day comes to life. And with experience in everything from brand events to private parties, you might just be turning to them again for your wedding anniversary celebrations…

Discover more at Thegolbornecollection.com or on Instagram @thegolbornecollection

WELCOME TO MY WORLD

As Vogue launches its new initiative, model JOURDAN DUNN *– after years battling* SELF-DOUBT *and discrimination – explains why fashion is for* EVERYONE

As a teenager, growing up in Greenford, west London, I *loved* getting dressed. My family would always tease me – "Jourdan, you're going to the corner shop, not a wedding!" – but I just had this innate sense of wanting to look and feel good, no matter the context. I knew that putting on a particular outfit would make me feel powerful. That said, I can't say I paid much attention to what was going on in fashion, in the glossy sense. To be honest, I didn't really think of it as a space that was for me.

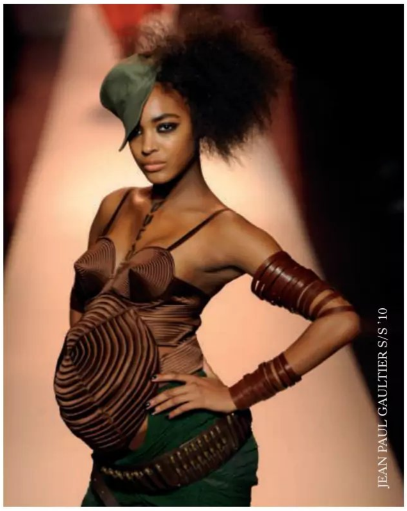
Deep down, though, I think I wanted to be part of it. People had often said that I should consider modelling, but I rejected the notion. I've always been the type that, if you tell me to go left, I'll go right, so I told myself that it wasn't for me. That was, of course, because of my own insecurities and how I felt about myself. Within my own bubble – shopping for cute outfits with my friends at Punkyfish and Jane Norman – I felt confident in showing up as myself, but when I even contemplated presenting myself to the wider world, I saw myself as a tall, lanky girl in ankle swingers (none of my jeans were ever *quite* the right fit).

When I did start modelling, I carried that feeling with me. The first time I walked into a casting – I can't remember what for now – I felt like I wasn't enough. I found myself in a room full of other girls, looking around, thinking, "Oh, OK, there's an actual model uniform going on!" Skinny jeans, stiletto pumps… Meanwhile, there I was with my Shoe Express heels and a Disney Princess tote bag on my shoulder. My mum and I exchanged a glance that said, "I don't think we got the memo…" but she then reminded me that what was going to make me stand out was being myself.

Still, those feelings of not belonging reared their head throughout the early years of my career. The industry is a tough place for a woman of colour – and it *really* was back then. I remember, clear as day, walking to a casting only to receive a call from my agent remorsefully notifying me, "They're not having Black girls this season." And I remember having to double-check that those were actually the words I'd just heard.

There were times when I didn't want to show up and I'd turn to my mum. "Jourdan, you don't have to be doing this," she'd lovingly remind me. "If you don't want to be out there, in Paris or Milan, you can still come home and figure out what it is that you want to do. If you do want to be there, though, be there with purpose and intention."

That said, I battled with the notion of "representing". As my career progressed, I started to feel the pressure. I'd have days when I'd have a strong sense of who I was, and how much I meant to so many people, but then I'd often feel at odds with being cast as a role model. I was still growing up and figuring out so many things about life.


JEAN PAUL GAULTIER S/S '10

When those thoughts came up, though, I realised showing that human vulnerability – that I'm not someone who is out of reach, that I'm someone who people can relate to – was a crucial part of my strength. I thought, "What about the girls like me, the other young, lanky Black girls from Greenford whose ankle-swingers don't quite fit?" I owed it to them. I had to own that, step into my power and not allow myself to shrink.

Fashion played a key part in that process. There are two particular moments that stick out for me, when clothing really helped me step into myself. The first is when I wore a properly tailored suit. It was for Ferragamo – I can't recall the season, but my mum gasped at how good I looked. Having grown up feeling out of the ordinary due to how things fitted, wearing something that was tailored to me, that fit me *well*, was incredible. The other would have to be walking for Jean Paul Gaultier when I was pregnant with my son (*left*). At the time, I was feeling so low and depleted due to everything going on around me, and the harsh media judgements about my pregnancy. During my fitting, I almost felt like I was being fitted into a suit of armour – and when I hit that runway, I felt truly powerful, like I was protecting myself and my unborn child, and standing in my power. Moments like these gave me the boost I needed to realise the importance of the platform I had and feel emboldened to stand on it, to really consider what I could do with it and how I was going to show up in the world.

Since then, there have been many improvements in how the industry operates, particularly with respect to diversity, both on the runway and behind the scenes. All the same, fashion can still feel like an exclusive club. There is talent everywhere, but not opportunity, with access often only afforded to a select few. We need to see more intention and attention paid to creating pathways for people from under-represented backgrounds. It's not just a matter of inviting them into the room, it's about making sure they feel heard and supported and seen once they're there.

That's why the message behind British *Vogue*'s Fashion is for Everyone campaign resonates with me so deeply: I know what it's like to love fashion but not have the access, to feel excluded for not having the right clothes. This campaign isn't just about style, it's about confidence, identity and feeling seen, and I hope that it leads to more access, more support and more opportunities for people who feel they've been excluded for too long.

To anyone who does feel like that, know that I see you and I've been you. Fashion is for you: you don't need to have a certain look, background or body type to belong. Your style, your story and your presence matters, and you should never have to limit yourself. Just showing up as your authentic self is enough – because you are more than enough.

OLIVIA ROSE; GETTY IMAGES

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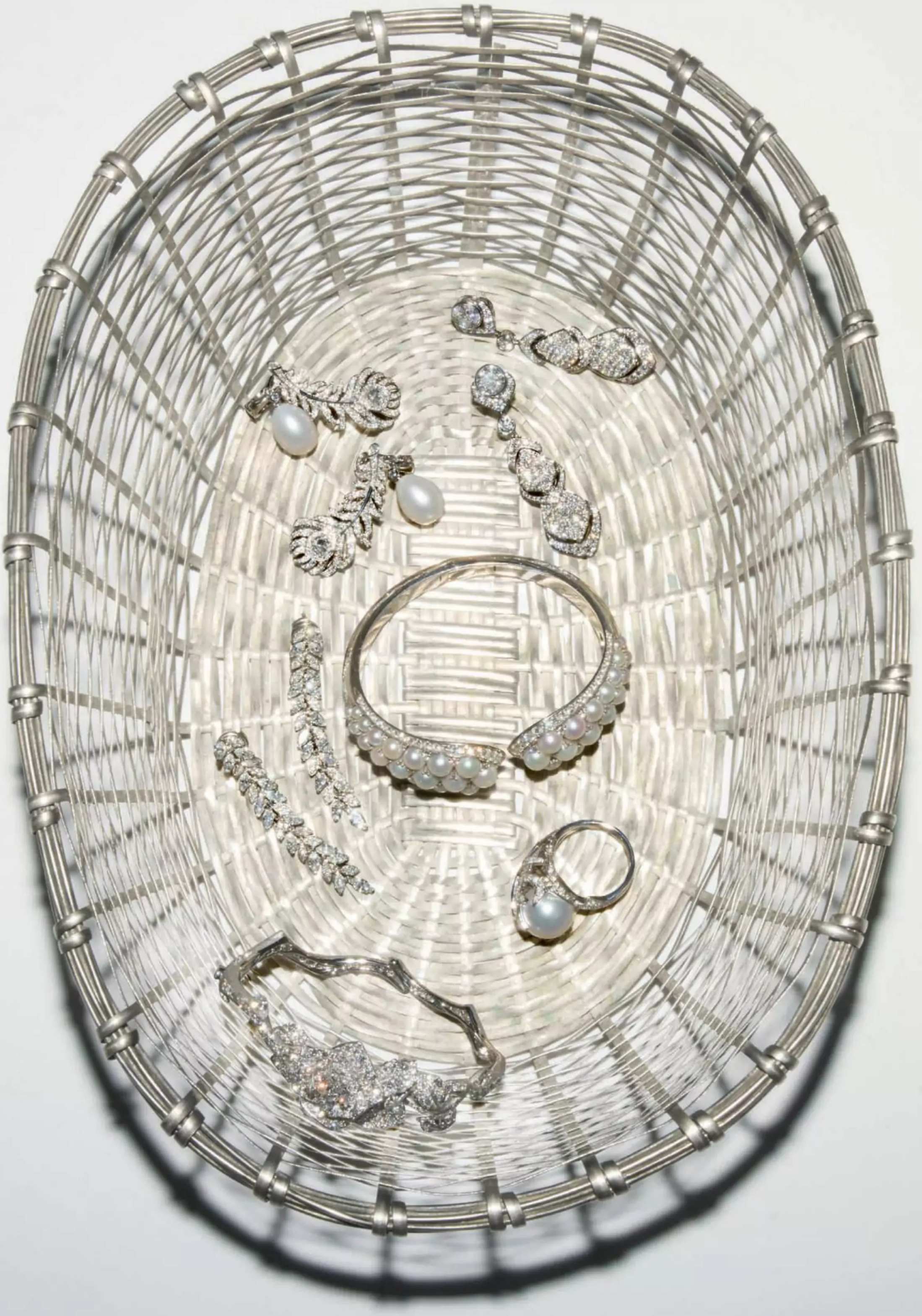
THE DAILY SHOW

Why save DIAMONDS *and* PEARLS *for* BEST? *Master the mix of* HIGH-*low and wear everywhere, says* FUNMI FETTO. *Photograph by* OTTO MASTERS



Clockwise from top left: white gold, pearl and diamond earrings, BOUCHERON. *White gold and diamond earrings,* DE BEERS. *White gold, diamond and pearl bracelet,* DAVID MORRIS. *White gold, pearl and diamond ring,* TASAKI. *White gold and diamond bracelet,* DIOR JOAILLERIE. *Platinum and diamond earrings,* TIFFANY & CO. *Prices on request. For stockists, see Vogue Information*

SET DESIGN: KIARA GOURLAY

THE SECRET SAUCE

Satire, sexcapades and burger emojis: SLUTTY CHEFF *is the anonymous provocateur shaking London's* RESTAURANT *scene to its core. As she publishes Tart, her must-read memoir,* MARINA O'LOUGHLIN *meets her. Photographs by* OTTO MASTERS. *Styling by* CHARLOTTE RUTTER

It's a typical baller move from the 20-something anonymous writer and chef Slutty Cheff. When her upcoming book, *Tart*, sold for a fairly hefty sum – via every new writer's dream, the multi-way publishing auction – she didn't go large on designer clothes or luxury travel. Instead, she installed herself in a flat in a landmark brutalist London icon (much like her own identity, she doesn't wish to disclose precisely which one it is here in print), and paid the significant rent up front for a year.

Her boyfriend, a hugely talented chef (I've eaten at his pop-up), is cooking us lunch in her new pad. "We're living this ridiculously domestic life," she says, "which is hilarious compared to when we first started seeing each other. Both cheffing, both overworked, doing drugs and drinking and sweating. And now we're pretending to be grown-up."

Not too grown-up: she's wearing a hoodie and bouncy pink slippers, her mass of auburn hair pulled back from a fine-featured, make-up-free face. She points to the table in the flat's original-era kitchen: "This is the first time we've used it." And when the boyfriend snips herbs from window boxes on the terrace for our navarin of lamb, she adds: "My mum planted those, but of course I forgot they needed watering."

It feels weird calling her Slutty, I say. But it's her nom de plume and the name that sold the book, so Slutty it is. She was discovered via an Instagram account that talked frankly about the real life of a young, single chef, dabbled in flash fiction ("After the sex I lay there with shaky legs, tingly pussy and flushed cheeks") and poked irreverent, sweary fun at London's frequently "wanky" food scene. It touched a nerve with the industry itself, becoming an insiders' guilty pleasure. Cool chef after cool chef duly followed Slutty online: it was almost an honour for her to have a dig at them, even when she described the dumplings at one of their establishments as "cat-foody". (The place in question responded amiably, agreed and took them off the menu.)

In those days – this was 2023 – she was already working on her book proposal. Then a post about social media-famous chef Thomas Straker propelled her into a whole other spotlight. When he presented a photograph of his all-male, all-white team on Instagram to mark the opening of his eponymous restaurant, Slutty responded, tongue firmly in cheek, with a highly comedic account of a fictitious trial shift there. "They told me it was the first time they'd even seen a woman in a professional kitchen," went one line. This was when she first crossed my radar too, and it was an immediate follow. Like me, she seemed to have an amused side-eye on some of the businesses' worst excesses.

Her follower count mushroomed. Is it irksome that this was what upped her public profile? She's philosophical: "That's how things happen. I couldn't have planned that post. I was hungover and at a Vietnamese spot by myself with a bowl of pho – were people going to take offence? But because I was hungover, I went, 'Fuck it.' And then my phone went crazy for the next 24 hours."

How did this new audience change things? "I stopped shit-talking restaurants so much. Also, the more time I spent in kitchens, I thought, 'Pipe down.' It was that thing of the more you know, the more you realise how little you know. Kitchens are hard work. And I didn't want to be like some critics, turning up late for tables and requesting stuff that's a bit audacious and then writing unfair things."

At what seemed like the speed of light, she acquired an agent, a publisher and an online Vogue column ("I Failed at the Trad Wife Life"). She wrote the book in six months: a frenetic, funny, sexy, gloves-off look at restaurant kitchen life. A typical passage goes: "I couldn't remember his name at this point and we'd both been up since 6am, but we went back to mine and fucked. We were sticky from the deep-fat fryer and bloated from the pints." Her agent's elevator pitch was "Anthony Bourdain meets Lena Dunham" and, having read it, it's no over-sell. How much of it is real, how much fictional? "It depends on the specific chapter. All characters are anonymised – an amalgamation of different people. Stories are based on my stories, and stories from chef friends. When the Straker post came out, loads of people thought it was real."

I wonder, now that she's so much more high profile, does she get the sort of unpleasantness doled out to many women on social media, especially since she's been so out-there on the sex front? "Not really. Newspaper comments are much worse! But this guy sent me a picture of Marco Pierre White, and then followed it with a dick pic. He waited for 23 minutes for me to respond to Marco, and when I didn't, he was like, 'This'll do the trick. Here's my penis.' And I get a lot of middle-aged guys saying, 'Have you heard of St John?'"

Reading the book, I spent quite a lot of time trying to guess which restaurants she had worked in – there have been three so far, two of which are big names. She really captures the stresses and adrenaline rushes of restaurant work, but not in a macho, *The Bear*-ish way ("I gave up on that after two episodes"). There's one particularly creepy character, an avatar for the kind of sexism that's still – despite best efforts from the more evolved restaurateurs – pretty prevalent in the business. How did she deal with characters like "Victor" IRL, especially if behaviour falls short of actual abuse but is "just really dodgy"? She talks about trying not to be freaked out by sex talk or "bantering about women". Or touches to her hair and body "which really brought me down. You're feeling really proud and confident of your abilities and then you're made to feel like a dweeby little dormouse. It feels like it takes away your power. One time I went outside to cry when it felt too grim. But I never cried in the kitchen."

The grit of professional kitchen life is a far cry from her affluent, north London background – the "posh girl" at the hot starters station. Disaffected with an early creative-adjacent office job – "a proper cliché beanbag branding agency. I have a lot to thank people for there, it was my version of university. But I was so bored by the actual work" – she went to cookery school >

HERMÈS BEAUTY ROUGE BRILLIANT SILKY TINTED LIP BALM.
CANDLESTICK, COMPLETEDWORKS. BLUE NAPKIN, TEKLA

Blouson, polo shirt, and poplin shirt, MIU MIU. *Silver signet ring and silver bracelet (top),* BLEUE BURNHAM. *Steel bracelet watch,* DIOR WATCHES. *Silver bangle and silver chain bracelet,* PANDORA and, instead of the classic dinner party circuit, decided to throw herself in at the deep end.

We've hoovered the lamb with its glorious aioli – well, I have. We've covered any number of subjects, from the superiority of Portuguese chips to how her parents are nothing but supportive, despite the edgy nature of some of her writing. How "90 per cent of chefs are not hot," and how to cope when social media content creators set up in your kitchen and "leave their fucking tripping hazard tripods in your way just as service is starting". How influencers cause artificial, unsustainable spikes in bums on seats and don't actually eat the food: "It's a weird, *Black Mirror* thing – they just take pictures of it." How restaurants these days want to hire chefs simply because of their online presence, even though some of the best chefs she's worked with haven't hauled themselves onto the screens. She has managed to stay true to herself on socials without showing her face – "and I never spoke about cooking techniques or how to be a better chef. If you do, you open up your whole world to a big dick swinging fest."

True. But parading yourself online is a requirement for even the most retiring writers these days. I'm curious about how she's going to square her anonymity with any sort of publicity drive. She says she wants to go to New York – her first visit ever – to promote *Tart*, and has come up with "some mad workarounds, like putting me in some kind of mock-up Catholic confessional box. People can tell me their sex or food secret sins and I'll sign their copy." In the hiatus after finishing the book, she created a porn mag (her description), *Hot Fat*, entirely solo; everything from the writing – which involved scouring vintage erotica, including "long reads on foreskins" – to printing and even distribution. She embarked on a frenzy of cycling round London to drop off copies to avid fans keen to read about "panna cotta titties", "mise en pussy" and helpful agony aunt tips on the politics of pegging.

"I couldn't have planned that," SLUTTY *recalls of her first* VIRAL *post. "I was hungover and at a Vietnamese spot by* MYSELF *with a* BOWL *of pho – were people going to take* OFFENCE?*"*

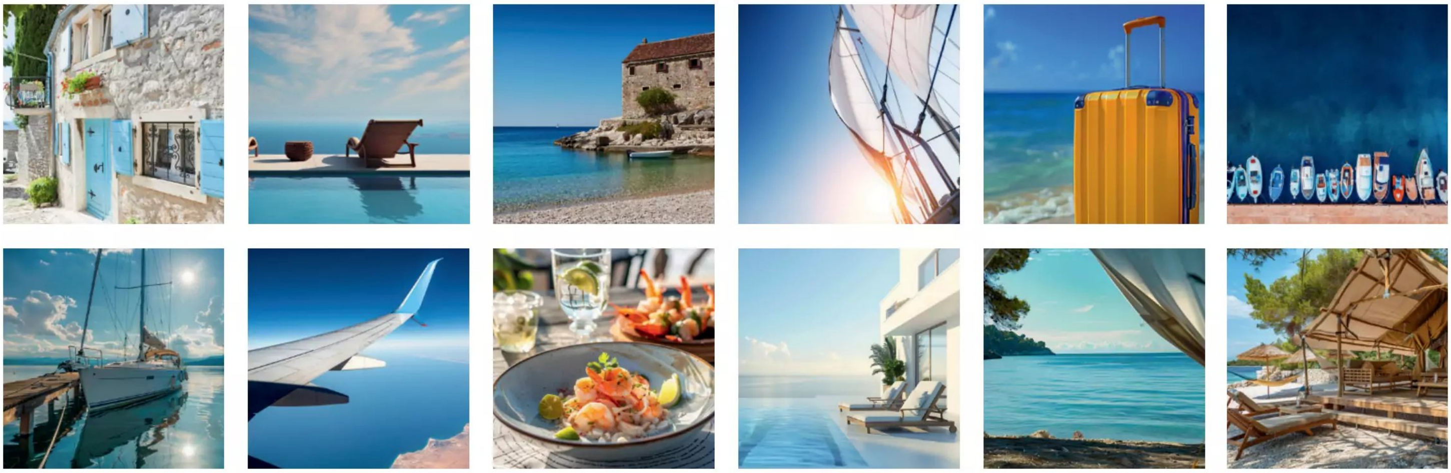
Is there a point at which Slutty as an entity is going to be too restrictive? Is she going to kill her off? "I don't know when or if she's going to die. I'm working on another book and thinking, do I keep the Slutty thing? It's easier to sell books if I do…" Her Instagram account profile reads, "face reveal at one mil". Seems fair. In the meantime, she's become a bit of a big deal, shortlisted for woman of the year in industry bible Code Hospitality, and resonating with her contemporaries too: "Lots of female chefs message me saying how much they relate to my stories and love seeing the representation."

I decline the kind offer of a Mini Roll for dessert. When the green chartreuse is produced, she tells me that, in a delicious twist, Lena Dunham has shown interest in adapting the book for screen. "She's so great! She even came to the flat to chat. I feel so lucky. I'm such a nihilist – all I can think is, 'What the fuck bad is going to happen?'"

Now that she's had a bite out of both worlds, is she a chef or a writer? "Writing is the easy thing. What's hard is the restaurant stuff. I've had a few head chefs remind me I'm no chef, just a lowly cook. It's a weird thing to do, be in a small room with a group of people who are obviously like-minded and weird because they're here to scrub cold fat off metal at midnight on a Saturday instead of going out. If you can hack it." You can't? "Well, I could hack it. But now I've been smothered in Lena Dunham and Hollywood. So, fuck it. I'm a writer."

Tart: Misadventures of an Anonymous Chef by Slutty Cheff is published on 17 July

Track top, WALES BONNER. *Gold-plated ring and gold-plated and carnelian ring,* KITSCHEN. *Gold-plated stacking rings and gold-plated chain bracelet,* PANDORA. *Gold and pink sapphire ring,* BLEUE BURNHAM. *Gold bangle,* TIFFANY & CO. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information. Hair & make-up:* ALEXIS DAY. *Nails:* SABRINA GAYLE. *Set design:* KIARA GOURLAY



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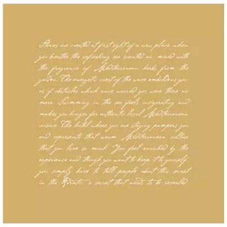

TRUTH *OR* DARE?

What makes THE DARE *music's most wanted man?* AMEL MUKHTAR *goes backstage with the singer, DJ and* BRAT *co-conspirator to ask.* *Photographs by* ELLIOTT MORGAN. *Styling by* LOIS ADEOSHUN

It's almost 2am on a packed Dalston rooftop – the EartH smoking area, to be precise – at the club night Freakquencies, operated by one of the most compelling faces in music right now: The Dare. Though his set is next up, the Seattle musician and DJ, born Harrison Patrick Smith, who these days exists in a skinny-suit-wearing, shades-on, louche whirlwind of gigs, raves and afterparties, has yet to be spotted. Rumours and speculation abound.

The night attracts "the It girls, It boys and It they/thems of London", explains James Parkes, a social editor, dressed in a black leather jacket and trousers with a moth-bitten white tee. "But they're there to have a good time," he clarifies. "They're not there to be seen."

We migrate down to the dance floor. "Like, no one's in behind the DJ booth," Parkes observes. His friend, stylist Archie Grant, nods. "Everyone's in the crowd. And everyone wants to be in the crowd. The crowd is crowded! No one's trying to be a booth bitch tonight."

"Well, until Harrison," says Grant, smiling. They haven't seen him, not even in the green room. "He's been MIA. I feel like maybe he's not in a suit. Maybe that's the big reveal: he's in a T-shirt and jeans."

Everyone here is dressed like the early 2000s but in the distinctly 2020s way that combines every subculture: pastel hair, tulle skirts, legwarmers, shaggy mullets, ballet flats, grey tights, red cardigans, Bayonetta frames. It's Harajuku, it's indie cindy, it's office siren, it's MySpace scene kid, it's Y2K mall rat, all on the same person. Some are dressed in The Dare homage – blazer, tie, slacks – but with a light-up hat or something.

The Dare might look like a long-lost member of The Strokes and make skirt-chasing sleazeball dance tracks, but the night is all but exclusively e-girls and e-gays. Is it his fashion credentials, adored by Hedi Slimane? Is it his professional love-in with zeitgeist-setting collaborator Charli XCX? Or is it simply that everyone here wants him?

It's the fourth edition of Freakquencies in London and down in the basement the air is sticky as strobe lights flash blue. The crowd is already tight for Danny L Harle, but once The Dare appears behind the decks – very much in his trademark suit and sunglasses – everyone lurches forward. A tall brunette with a *Brat*-green Starface patch on her chin shoves me out the way. Phones are out. But a song or two in and >

Opposite: wool twill suit and poplin shirt, GUCCI. *Sunglasses, The Dare's own.*

This page: grain de poudre tuxedo suit, poplin shirt, silk tie, and leather shoes, SAINT LAURENT BY ANTHONY VACCARELLO

This page: poplin shirt, GUCCI. *Tie and sunglasses, The Dare's own.*

Opposite: tuxedo suit, shirt, and tie, as before. For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information. Grooming: ANGEL McQUEEN. *Production:* ASH THOMPSON. *With thanks to EartH, N16* people are just dancing. When his track "Sex" comes on, they go wild. Still, everyone's facing him, watching him DJ. His sunglasses create a *Mona Lisa* effect – you could convince yourself he's watching you back.

Backstage, a few hours earlier, sunnies off, he cocked an eyebrow and said: "I've always been a sex symbol. I'm just glad to see that the world is proving me right." Then, immediately, The Dare, his manager Bryce and publicist Ruth guffaw at the idea. Sure, he's now on the European leg of his headline tour, but it did feel silly to ask the soft-spoken gentleman in front of me, thoughtful and a bit reticent, dressed in a cosy jumper and tired from his long train ride in, about his heart-throb status. But how else to explain all the women falling over themselves to get close to him?

Smith is a crowd-pleaser. Freakquencies started in New York bar Home Sweet Home, where, post-lockdown, he learnt to DJ, after moving to the city in 2018. He got a feel for the tracks that got people to dance and started making electroclash under a new name. "The Dare is something that's a bit suggestive," he says, his gentle, rounded Pacific Northwest voice neutralising the implied ribaldry. "I always thought it would be cool to have a band with a 'The' name. It's just very classic. I'm interested in history and tradition and timeless things." (That explains the suit.)

At Freakquencies, he often road-tests unreleased songs, such as "Guess", produced for Charli XCX and first played in raw form alongside her at his party after the Met Gala in 2024. When she played it at the 2025 Grammys, he joined her ensemble of clubbers on stage. "It's just incredible to be part of this album that was such a huge moment in culture." But he still sees himself as an outsider. "I'm sort of on Dare island," he divulges in a follow-up email. "I think what I do is adjacent to a lot of other things happening in music but I'm not really part of any of the [scenes]."

Growing up the eldest child of a therapist mother and father in sales, "I've been writing music since I was five or six years old," he recalls. "I was forced to play violin, so I would compose very shitty songs as a kid." Before his current persona he played in punk bands and made experimental music, then started cult indie project Turtlenecked. So when his first track as The Dare, "Girls", was a worldwide hit, "It was intense and out of the blue, because I've been making music for so long. For some reason, this song resonated with people in a way that I had not expected," he says. "It was very exciting, and it still is, because, I mean, I'm here in London, throwing parties bigger than I ever could have imagined." He leaves to get ready for the night. "Make sure the stuff about me being a sex symbol is in there."

Later, once it's over, I find the afterparty in a secret room behind a curtain and up some stairs. Smith is on a sofa, surrounded by gorgeous women, huge bottles of spirits on the table, the rock-star tableau of dreams. And yet, maybe five or 10 minutes later, he excuses himself from the group, who turn out to be industry peers and pals, explaining he's got a cold from all the travelling. Seeming sober, he says warm goodbyes and slinks back to his hotel, suitcase in tow, on his own. Heart-throbs are homebodies too.

2 HOUR
DRY CLEANI
SHO
SUITED
KEY CUTTER • L

> *"I've always been a* SEX SYMBOL. *I'm just glad to see that the* WORLD *is* PROVING *me right"*

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Flashlight

PAPER CUTS

From EPIC *sagas to razor-*SHARP *satire, summer's hottest* READS *come with added edge*

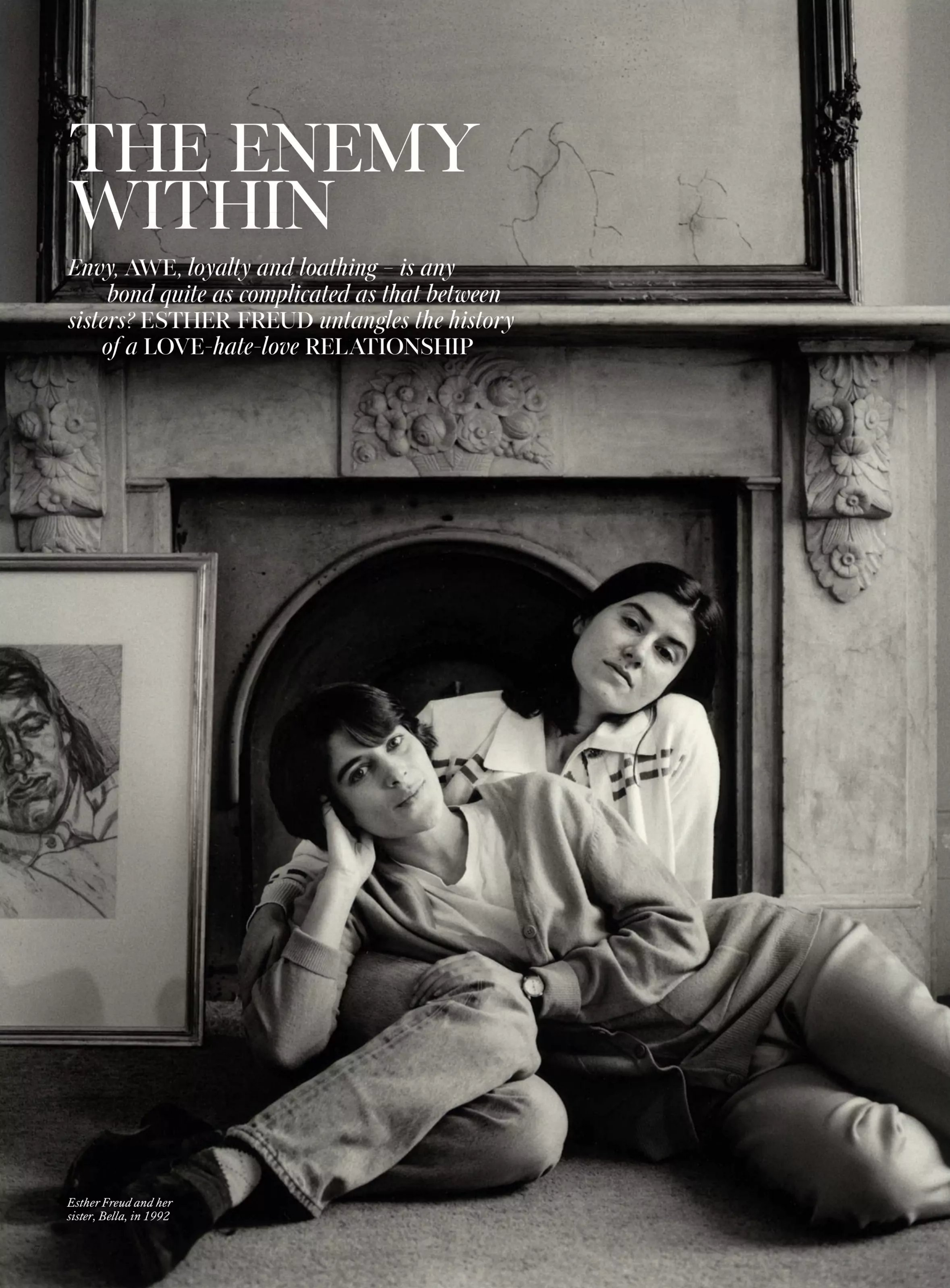
From a white linen sofa in the corner of a "floor-through loft" apartment in Lower Manhattan, the unnamed narrator of Zoe Dubno's deliciously scathing first novel – the sarkily titled **Happiness and Love** (Doubleday, out on 10 July) – observes her so-called friends as they assemble for a dinner party. With barely contained disdain, she watches them "eating beluga caviar on marcelled potato chips, the kitsch, appetizing specialty *de la maison* marrying *high* and *low*" in "this palace of tarted-up vapidity". Ouch. Having spent "the past five years on a veritable detox plan from life on the Bowery", the narrator, on learning one of the group has died, finds herself accidentally (on purpose?) pulled back into the toxic art-world clique she thought she had escaped. Judgemental yet self-aware, caustic yet warm, Dubno's book will have you yelping in recognition – either at the state of your own friendships or (depending on your lifestyle and bank balance) at the characters on the page.

In **TonyInterruptor** (Granta Books, out on 14 August), her first novel in six years, Booker shortlisted author Nicola Barker also puts people's pretensions under the microscope. "'Is *this* honest? Are we all being *honest* here?'" is the question posed loudly by a man, christened Tony Interruptor, a heckler of sorts, during a jazz performance by a renowned musician. The incident goes viral and its repercussions are what concerns the rest of Barker's clever comic novel, which brilliantly interrogates our understanding of the internet, love and truth.

Elsewhere, a clutch of authors weave memorable stories of migration and family reckonings. Claire Adam moves between 1980s Trinidad and present-day south London in her unforgettable heartache of a novel **Love Forms** (Faber & Faber, out on 19 June), in which her protagonist, 58-year-old Dawn Bishop, finally confronts the teenage pregnancy her family wanted kept secret as she searches for the baby – now adult – she was forced to give up. Meanwhile, in **The Satisfaction Café** (Abacus, out on 26 June), Kathy Wang follows Joan from her arrival as a young adult in the US from China through marriage, children and eventual widowhood. With hints of Anne Tyler, Wang shows how the extraordinary can find its way into every life. Finally, National Book Award winner Susan Choi returns with the epic – and twisty – **Flashlight** (Jonathan Cape, out on 10 July), a sweeping tale of secrets and identity set across Korea, America and Japan that promises to stay with you long after the last sentence. OLIVIA MARKS

THE ENEMY WITHIN

Envy, AWE, *loyalty and loathing – is any bond quite as complicated as that between sisters?* ESTHER FREUD *untangles the history of a* LOVE-*hate-love* RELATIONSHIP



Esther Freud and her sister, Bella, in 1992

I *don't know how to… hate… you…"* As children, my sister Bella and I had our own anthem. It was a bastardised version of a song from *Jesus Christ Superstar*, the words of which we'd reformed to suit our needs. We'd narrow our eyes, lower our voices, advance until we collided, teeth bared and nails out, laughing as we rolled across the floor.

Bella was two years old when I was born. Our mother – single, barely out of her teens – arrived home to her third-floor flat on Camden Road and set me down on the bed. She didn't immediately respond when my crying drifted through to the kitchen, but when the noise escalated to an ear-piercing scream she rushed to my side. Bella was beaming. "I told the baby to be quiet," she said. She'd caught my cheek with her nail. Beads of blood were blooming. Mum turned on her. Her first daughter had transformed into a threat; her second, tiny in comparison, defenceless, had become the one she must protect. And so the dynamics of our relationships were set.

I've always been interested in birth order. How the roles are laid out from the start. The expectation that the elder sibling will be responsible and high-achieving, while the next child will placidly follow in their wake. I admire those who rebel, those with the courage to leap over the boundaries. I'm aware myself how carefully the younger sister needs to tread, how mindful she must be not to threaten the equilibrium, not to blossom too early or too obviously, if she wants to keep her sibling as a friend.

Recently I met a woman whose daughters were openly and miserably competitive. Both clever, the younger had the effrontery to be popular and sporty too. By their mid-teens the elder had sunk into despair. In their 20s they embarked on couples counselling together. It only took a few sessions, and newly united, they turned around and blamed their mother. The woman laughed as she told me this. She was just glad, she said, to see them getting on.

I read that Tina Knowles took her girls to therapy when Beyoncé's success began affecting the confidence of her younger daughter, Solange. It helped, apparently, but would it have worked so well if the global superstar had been the youngest member of the family? Would Solange have been able to operate in a shadow cast from below?

Historically, we have always been fascinated by little sisters who overturn the family order. Anne Boleyn not only dislodged Henry VIII's wife in her bid to become queen, but also his mistress – her own elder sister. Mary Boleyn was considered more beautiful than Anne, but not perhaps as ambitious. A generation later, Anne's daughter, Elizabeth I, had to await the death of *her* half sister, another Mary, to secure her place on the throne of England, where she reigned for 45 years.

Growing up, I took on the traditional younger sister role. Bella was quick and outspoken, while I was what was then politely termed "vague" – unable to read until I was 10, climbing in most nights beside my mother having yet again wet the bed. I did want to be noticed, but I also saw the benefits of invisibility, even wishing for it when I saw the trouble that both my sister and my mother's fiery personalities attracted. I'd stay quiet, listen and watch. A game I liked to play was to lie behind the sofa, pretending to be dead. I'd wait and wait for anyone to notice. But it was worth it when I heard my mother tell a friend what an amusingly eccentric child I was. It was the first time I became aware of having an identity, other than as Bella's sister. And being Bella's sister was a defining part of my life. At school, at home, in the stories that I told myself, the stories I told her. Right through our childhood I was convinced that through the luck of our connection, I was twice the person I might otherwise have been.

The young sisters with their mother

I was 14 when she left home, and when I found new friends who knew nothing of her existence, their interest in me was a revelation. It surprised me too how fast I grew into the space she left behind. How much I liked it. Until then I'd felt her influence at all times. Her opinions, her condemnation, the reflection of her glamour. "Are you Bella's sister?" people would ask me. We have always looked remarkably alike. And I'd take this as a compliment, and was proud to say that yes, I was, even when sometimes they went on to inquire why she was so rude. "She's not rude," I'd insist. "Just short-sighted. If she'd known it was you…"

Once, someone rang me from a hotel room, insisting the party Bella and her friends had cajoled her into having had got out of hand. "Are you Bella's sister?" she asked, and when I said I was, she ordered me to come and help her clean it up.

In literature too, birth order is a common concern. When the youngest sister in *Pride and Prejudice* elopes before the others are even engaged, the whole structure of the family is threatened. The literary world has equally long been fascinated by the rivalry between two of its leading novelists, the late AS Byatt and her sister, Margaret Drabble. Recently I heard Drabble – the younger – explain in an interview how her sister never forgave her for having the temerity to publish a novel before she'd had a chance to do so, not when she knew her sister's ambition had always been to write. Even when Byatt went on to win the Booker Prize, the bitterness between them never entirely dissolved.

Fortuitously, my debut novel, *Hideous Kinky* – based on the years Bella and I spent travelling in North Africa with our mother when we were very small – was published the same year that Bella launched her womenswear collection, winning young designer of the year, while my book was optioned for a film. We were bonded, all over again, not just by our challenging and peripatetic childhood – the need to keep each other safe – but by the adventure of our self-made lives.

In the decades since, we have watched each other closely, comparing our successes and our failures in both work and love. Striding ahead, falling behind. Every new pitfall is an opportunity for discussion. Hours and hours of conversation, every last detail of our lives examined.

"I wish I had a sister," my own daughter has sometimes complained, sandwiched as she is between two boys, and I have wondered who she'd be if I had provided one. There have been other times too, when, shocked by Bella's forthrightness, my daughter has looked at me, appalled. "Or maybe," she's conceded, "it's good to be the only girl."

"I don't know how to… hate… you," I hum to myself. No one can know, if they're not embroiled, the heady pleasure of feeling yourself so entwined. Just last week I was walking across Hampstead Heath when a figure called out through the bushes: "Are you Bella's sister?"

I felt the familiar fusion of pride and belonging, and without a second's pause I shouted: "Yes! I am."

My Sister and Other Lovers by Esther Freud (Bloomsbury, £19) is published on 3 July

CHRIS DAWES

STYLE
IT
OUT
F&F

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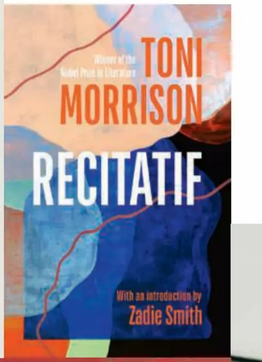
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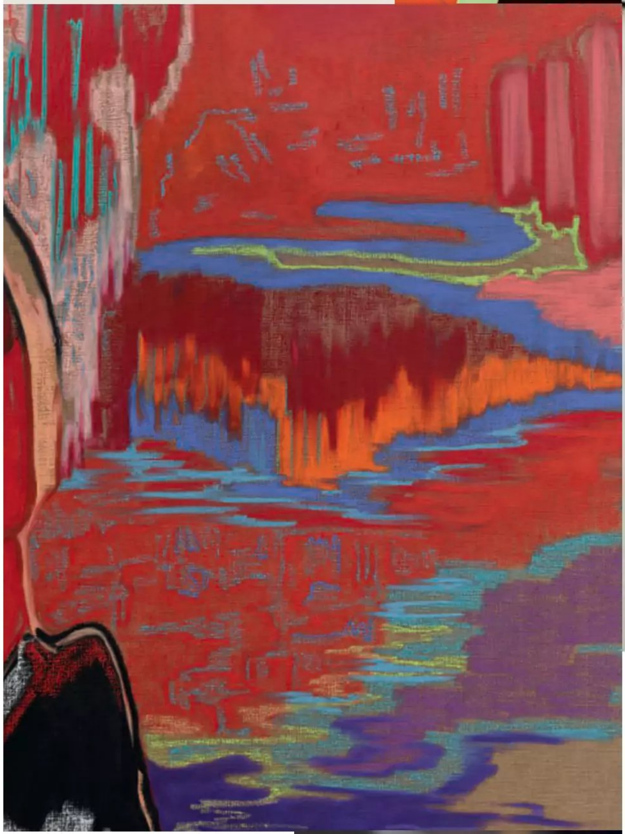
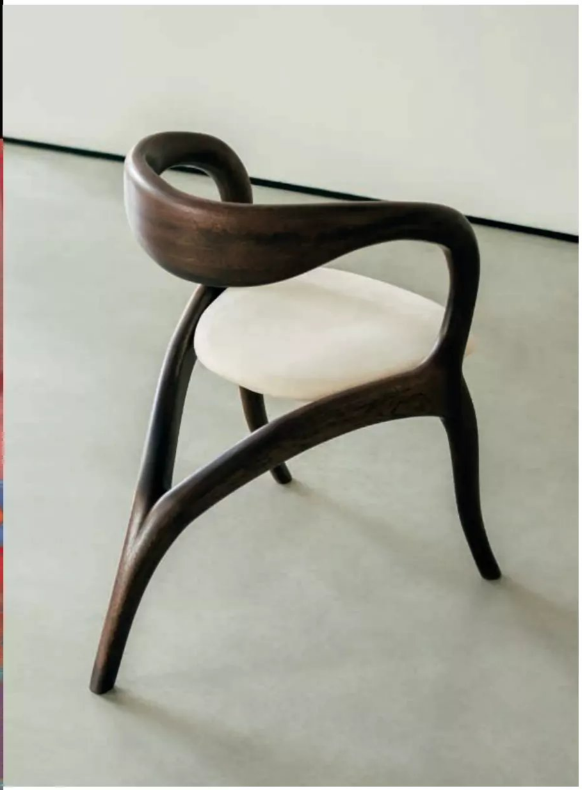
With an introduction by Zadie Smith





Style editor FUNMI FETTO *shares her* MOODBOARD *for the month ahead*

"My anti-social self dreams of a summer night in. The scene: I'm in a chic Mimi Shodeinde chair, book in hand. But then an invitation to Thelma West's fabulous Tuscan home arrives, followed by another to celebrate Rachel Jones's Dulwich Picture Gallery show. So I get dressed and I head out. Because, like Oscar Wilde, I can resist everything except temptation."

Clockwise from top left: raffia and leather bag, £1,420, CHLOÉ. *Recitatif by Toni Morrison, £10,* CHATTO & WINDUS. *Espadrille sandals, £625,* ULLA JOHNSON. *Mahogany chair, from £3,398,* MIMINAT DESIGNS. GABAR & EZRA-LLOYD JACKSON *Nagar Min eau de parfum, £120. Sunglasses, £430,* FENDI. *Rose gold, diamond and ceramic earrings, price on request,* THELMA WEST. *Gated Canyons by Rachel Jones (2024)*

EVA HERZOG; GETTY IMAGES

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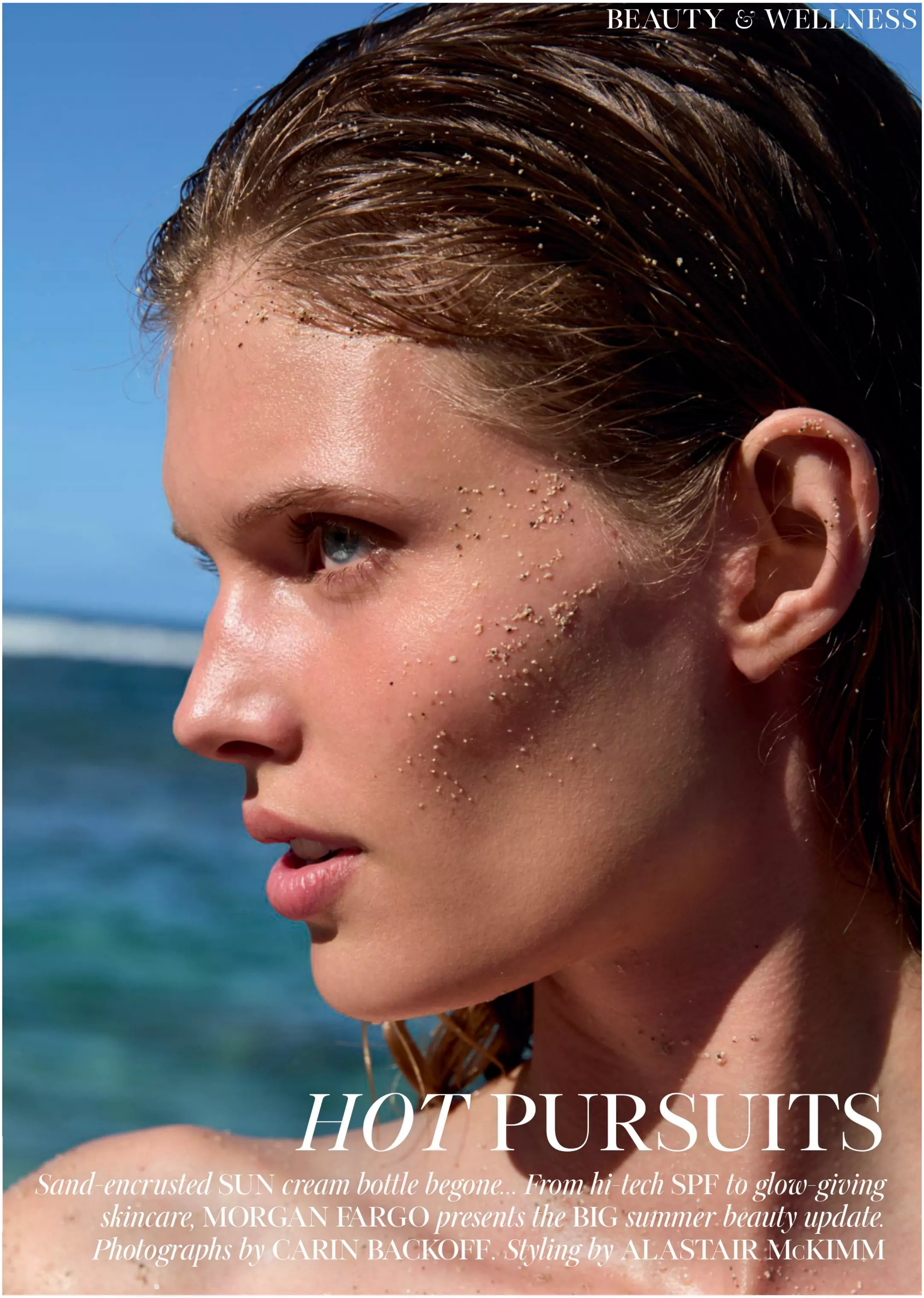

HOT PURSUITS

Sand-encrusted SUN *cream bottle begone... From hi-tech* SPF *to glow-giving skincare,* MORGAN FARGO *presents the* BIG *summer beauty update. Photographs by* CARIN BACKOFF. *Styling by* ALASTAIR McKIMM

Active protection

Chalky pastes, begone. Modern SPFs are silky smooth, quick absorbing and contain active ingredients as well as sun protection. Just look to Murad's Superactive Moisturizers, a range that can mattify, brighten dullness and gently resurface skin. They work by combining sunscreen with ingredients such as salicylic acid and vitamin C – something doctor and pharmacist Christine Hall says can be highly beneficial come summertime. "Now's the time to introduce antioxidants, such as vitamin C, to help protect against environmental stressors and reduce skin disorders triggered by sun exposure, such as hyperpigmentation," she says.

Hand luggage heroes

Ideal for both a jaunt to the Med or a Cornish beach break, this season's make-up must-haves are double-ended and multipurpose. There's the new Nars Hot Escape Cheek Palette – a highly useful and compact blush, bronzer and highlighter quad – as well as Trinny London Trinity Sticks, a lip-cheek-eye solution in a pen-shaped bullet, inspired by founder Trinny Woodall's extensive travel abroad. Simply uncap and scribble from either the Glow or Matte end of the clever stick.

Reapplication stations

We might be more informed about wearing SPF, but how many of us are dutifully reapplying? "It's so important to reapply SPF every two hours if you're out in the sun," consultant dermatologist Derrick Phillips recommends. In 2025, that doesn't mean taking a milky lotion to your already made-up face. Instead, pick up a transparent balm, stick or spray and apply secondary layers as the day goes on. The new Dr Jart+ Every Sun Day Ultra Sheer Priming Sunscreen Stick SPF 30 is utterly transparent and imbued with barrier-supporting ingredients, such as hyaluronic acid.

Intensive care

Between the dip-nap-dip holiday routine of swimming and sleeping and dodging powerful UV rays, skin goes through a lot in the summer. That's where ultra-reparative skincare comes in, formulated to replenish lost moisture and push healthy fats into the skin double-quick.

Beach towel, HERMÈS. *For stockist, see Vogue Information. Hair:* TOMO JIDAI. *Make-up:* JAMAL SCOTT. *Production:* AP STUDIO. *Model:* IDA HEINER. *With thanks to the St Barts Tourism Office*

CARIN BACKOFF

Skip to the squelch

If there's anything to take the shine off of summer it's fighting an ongoing battle against moisture-induced hair puff. But what to do? For curly and coily hair, it's about adding enough moisture to the hair to stop it pulling more hydration from the atmosphere. "You literally want to hear a little bit of squelch in the hair," JVN founder and *Queer Eye* star Jonathan Van Ness likes to say, referring to the noise hair should make when it has adequate creams, gels and mousses layered into it when wet.

SOS (Save Our Scalps)

Sure, the warmer weather might offer some respite from tight, dry conditions such as scalp psoriasis, but it can also be the cause of UV and chlorine-induced issues. "UV acts like bleach," says Anabel Kingsley, brand president and consultant trichologist at Philip Kingsley, giving hair a brittle, tangled quality. On top of this, the exposed parts of the scalp are susceptible to burning just as much as the rest of your skin. Best practice is to layer on SPF (yes, even up top) and saturate the hair in fresh water before swimming.

Tan lines

There's no such thing as a healthy suntan, so say the experts. How to fake it, then? Forget biscuit-scented mousses with green-tinged lids, the new generation of sunless tanners feel more like skincare and come in gel, mist and serum formulations. The same rules apply, though: proper exfoliation, adequate hydration and not forgetting the areas behind the knees and ears.

SPF

The mattifying one: MURAD *Superactive Moisturizer SPF 40 Mattifying Oil & Pore Control, £45*

The sebum-control SPF: SIMPLE *Hydrating UV Fluid SPF 50, £13*

The easy-to-reapply SPF: DR JART+ *Every Sun Day Ultra-Sheer Priming Sunscreen Stick SPF 30, £24*

The weightless protection: LA ROCHE-POSAY *Anthelios UVAir Daily SPF 50+, £20*

Murad.
Superactive Moisturizer SPF 40: Mattifying Oil + Pore Control
Simple
hydrating UV fluid
SPF 50
Dr.Jart+
Every Sun Day
Ultra-sheer Priming Sunscreen Stick
SPF 30
LA ROCHE-POSAY
50+
ANTHELIOS UVAIR

MAKE-UP

The multipurpose stick: TRINNY LONDON *Trinity Sticks, £36 each*

The all-in-one face: NARS *Hot Escape Cheek Palette, £48*

The face-reviving blush: SAIE *SuperSuede Radiant Blush Powder, £22*

The modern plumper: YSL BEAUTY *Loveshine Plumping Lip Oil Gloss, £38*

The sculpt & blush: WESTMAN ATELIER *The Powder Duos, £69*

TRINNY LONDON
Saie

SKIN

The renewer: SHISEIDO *Ultimune Power Infusing Serum, £90*

The reparative brightening serum: DERMALOGICA *Biolumin-C Heat Aging Protector, £96*

The hydration-rich oil: DR BARBARA STURM *Ceramide Drops Face Oil, £125*

The recovery cream: DR DAVID JACK *Skin Cushion Pro-Lipid Recovery Cream, £139*

The while-you-sleep cream: ESTÉE LAUDER *Advanced Night Repair Overnight Treatment, £79*

SHISEIDO
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MOLECULAR COSMETICS
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PRO-LIPID RECOVERY CREAM
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ESTÉE LAUDER
Advanced Night Repair
Overnight Treatment

HAIR

The magic milk: KÉRASTASE *Gloss Absolu Anti-Frizz Glaze Milk, £43*

The holiday-in-a-bottle: OUAI *Leave In Conditioner, £26*

The instant hair wash: JVN *Perfect The Essential Dry Shampoo, £26*

The pre-wash treatment: PHILIP KINGSLEY *Elasticizer Therapies Honey Nectar and Peach, £41*

KÉRASTASE
GLOSS ABSOLU
ANTI-FRIZZ GLAZE MILK
OUAI
LEAVE IN CONDITIONER
JVN
THE ESSENTIAL DRY SHAMPOO
PHILIP KINGSLEY
ELASTICIZER THERAPIES

SCALP

The scalp renewer: HAIR BY SAM McKNIGHT *Pure Genius Scalp Oil, £36*

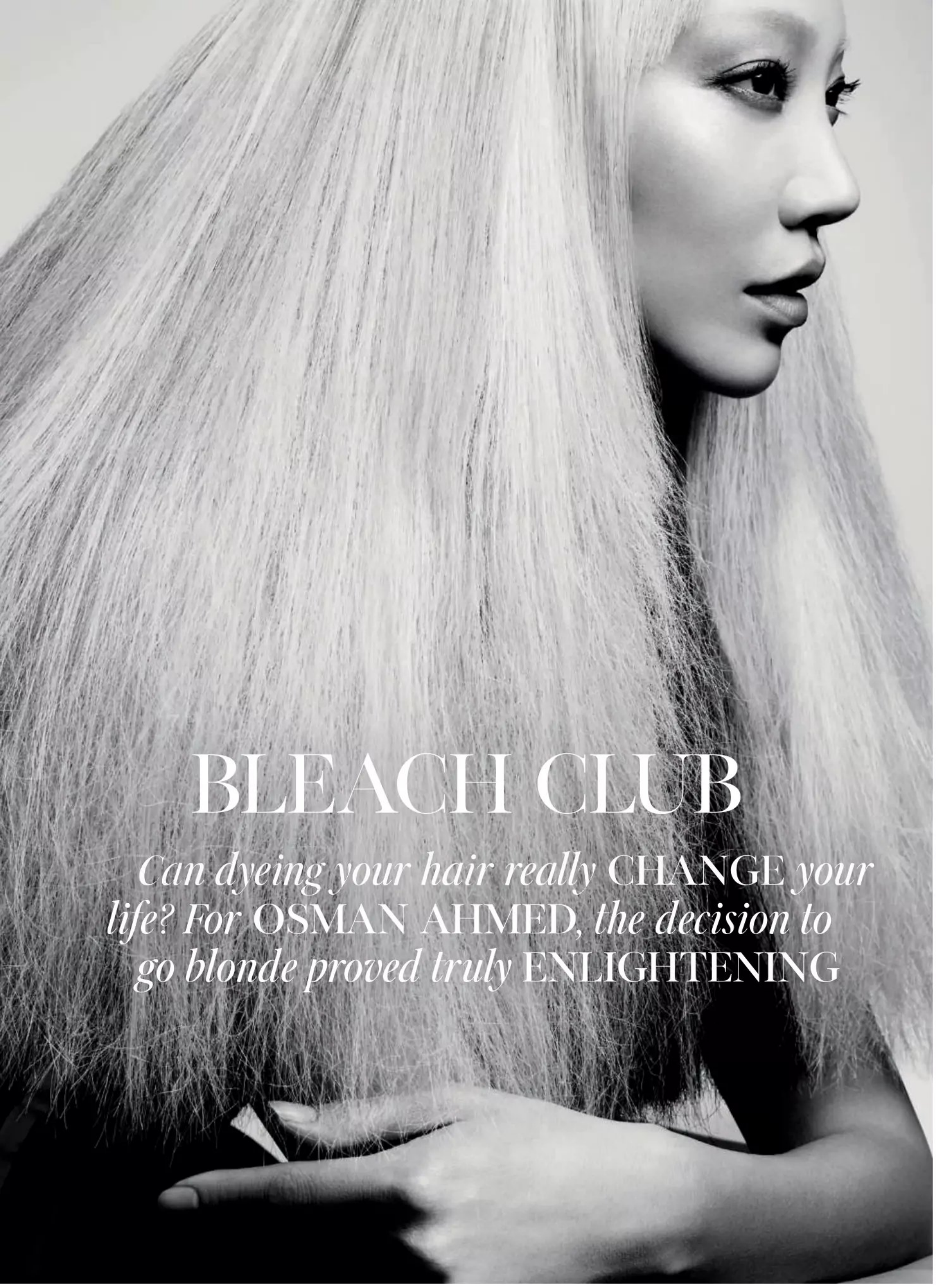
TANNING

The next-gen gel tanner: DIOR *Solar, £39*

The brightening butter: SUNDAY RILEY CEO *Vitamin C Brighten & Tighten Body Butter, £48*

The supple secret: CLINIQUE *Moisture Surge Body Hydrator, £29*

PURE GENIUS
HAIR BY SAM McKNIGHT
DIOR SOLAR
C.E.O.
SUNDAY RILEY
CLINIQUE
moisture surge



BLEACH CLUB

Can dyeing your hair really CHANGE *your life? For* OSMAN AHMED, *the decision to go blonde proved truly* ENLIGHTENING

There wasn't much left that I could do to shock my mother. Or so I thought. At the age of 30 – after a lifetime of comings out, unconventional career paths, an occasionally hedonistic lifestyle, dismantling the gender binary and a revolving door of men – my Kashmiri mother let out a scream of horror when I came through her door with blow-dried locks of long blonde hair. It was, in her eyes, the ultimate betrayal, not just of our culture but of the dark, silky curls she passed down to me. Friends in India were similarly disappointed; some in London started to teasingly nickname me Brigitte – not as in Bardot, but as in Macron. There was a feeling of letting the side down, of bowing down to the bourgeois beauty standards that my generation has been so vocally opposed to. I guess they don't call it a bombshell for nothing. And here I was thinking I would be having more fun.

For most of my life, it was anathema that I would have anything other than nocturnally dark hair. About 18 months ago, however, something began to shift, something that I couldn't quite articulate and, like so many, I felt the gravitational pull towards the salon, searching for answers on a swivelling chair. Two hours later, after foils, toner, more foils and a gloss rinse at the backwash, I walked out of Hershesons on a spring afternoon not recognising myself in windows and mirrors.

Going blonde was a transformation – cosmetic, yes, but also existential. It felt liberating, like the burden of who I've always been lifting from my shoulders. It felt like I had decided, perhaps unknowingly, about who I could be. In hindsight, it was the first step into a transition that would eventually see me embrace a hyperfemininity I had long toyed with but mostly suppressed – or at least delayed. In my case, it was a Trojan horse, something for old friends to comment on instead of my footwear or pronouns. To strangers, my golden hair became a kind of armour, a luminous shield behind which I could mask my stubble and, for a moment, pass unnoticed.

What many failed to understand was why I had chosen blonde. Some assumed I was capitulating to whiteness, co-opting a beauty standard we've long critiqued. A common misconception is that brown women go blonde to belie their roots, in every sense, when in fact it is often a marked juxtaposition: amplification rather than assimilation. I feel the same way Dolly Parton did when asked how she felt about the dumb blonde stereotype: "I know I'm not dumb and I also know I'm not blonde." I wanted to tell people, "I may not be a biological woman, I may not be a biological blonde, but I sure am biologically brown."

Blonde is not about genetics – it never has been – which is why it elicits such a strong reaction. Case in point: critics calling out Beyoncé for appropriating blondeness throughout her career, most recently while promoting her latest album, *Cowboy Carter*. As my friend Afua Hirsch, author of *Decolonising My Body*, points out: "You really can't internalise approval in those spaces, because you can't win. Beyoncé is a great example of that because when she does Black Power and Afro-centric hair, they say she's profiting from Black struggle, but when she's blonde and country she's appropriating white culture and 'selling out'." Hirsch's book explores how beauty must come from a place of self-love rather than self-loathing. "You have to interrogate your own choices, but also it is exactly that: a choice of how we express ourselves."

Approximatively two per cent of the world's population is a "natural" blonde, which makes you wonder why so many women choose to lighten their hair. Famously, it's fun – until your hair is brassy and your colourist is booked up for weeks. Blonde is also mired in racial, gendered, financial and sexual politics. It first appeared in sun-starved northern Europe roughly 11,000 years ago as a genetic mutation to aid vitamin D production and its rarity was therefore sexually desired, at a time when men were scarcer than women, and its scarcity made it aspirational. By the 19th century, great marketing had elevated the blonde to icon status, similar to Coca-Cola – both things you could buy in a bottle.

JOSH HIGHT; SØLVE SUNDSBØ/ART & COMMERCE

Lightening my HAIR *has lightened my life,* ILLUMINATING *a version of me I always suspected* EXISTED

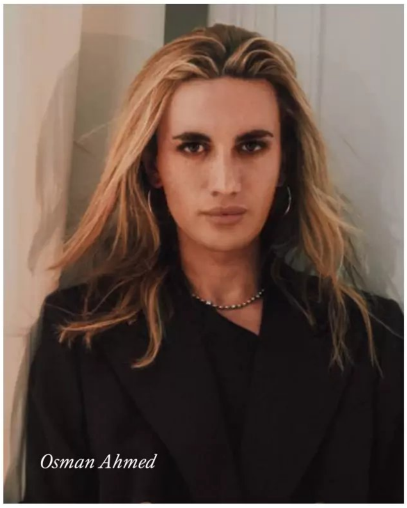
For white women, blonde often represents the innocence of youth – hence the common refrain, “I was blonde as a child.” But ultimately blondeness is a social construct, wielded to differing effect depending on its wearer. Jean Harlow and Marilyn Monroe used it to play the good-time girl or the vixen; Alfred Hitchcock co-opted it to underscore his leads’ iciness or vulnerability. For women of colour, it can symbolise rebellion or, in Nina Simone’s words, “psychic violence”. Etta James saw it as “gutsy, brazen, independent”. By 1998, Alek Wek was ripping off a blonde wig she was forced to wear at a Betsey Johnson show, and what Madonna had done for Marilyn, Lil’ Kim was doing for Mae West. Meanwhile, Beyoncé gets steadily blonder.

Growing up in a culturally conservative household, none of these women were role models. To be brown and blonde was to be corrupted – fast, loose, Americanised. Blonde was reserved for stars, magazine covers, perhaps a local dancehall queen, not for well-raised children of immigrants taught to take pride in their features, focus on education and guard against inferiority complexes.

In recent years, natural haircare and imagery have celebrated the beauty of textured, dark hair, emphasising that it is just as beautiful as the narrow noses, blue eyes and flaxen hair we grew up seeing in magazines like this one. But there’s also a new generation that views hair colour as a canvas for expression rather than a site of oppression, upending assumptions and using it not to erase their identity, but to sharpen it. There is a reason that undyed hair is referred to as virgin hair; to colour it is considered sexually ambitious – and no colour is more potent, more performative, more freighted, than blonde. It is a cipher for self-invention.

Not all blondes are made equal. There is a taxonomical spectrum that maps onto class, race and political ideology as much as your postcode: there are the gilded-haired Fox News anchors and peroxide *Playboy* bunnies; the Stoke Newington yummy mummies with their balayaged buns; the Dalston dancehall legends with bright braids and ombré wigs; the Oscar-winning platinum-and-ash of Gwyneth, Cate, Nicole; the beachy insouciance of Margot and Blake; the worn-in boho charm of Kate and Sienna; the patrician froideur of Carolyn Bessette Kennedy. And, of course, there’s the ironic blonde – such as Madonna and Courtney Love – who seemed to be satirising and subverting Old Hollywood pin-ups, tongues only somewhat in cheek.

Not many of those women ever made it to my growing iPhone folder of hair inspiration, despite growing up at a time when they dominated culture. Mine was filled with the honeyed richness of Mariah, J Lo and Beyoncé – the holy trinity of divas with vocals as buttery as their manes. The woman responsible for this trio is Rita Hazan, the legendary New York colourist who trained with Oribe and Brad Johns. Her genius lies in crafting blondes with depth and warmth, tailored for melanated women who dare to go golden.



Osman Ahmed

“My hair is dark – I’m Egyptian – and every time I would get my hair coloured it would be orange,” she recalls over Zoom. “I learnt how to manipulate colour to work for me and I can’t explain how I do it, but I do.” After Mariah Carey’s divorce in the late ’90s, the singer sent a friend to trial Hazan’s method – and the next day the colourist was at Carey’s penthouse, giving her what would become her signature honey hues. Then came Lopez, after filming *Selena*, and then Beyoncé, who has entrusted Hazan with her hair for more than a decade. “Beyoncé always wanted to be blonder, but struggled with brassiness, and no one could get it right for her – but now she calls it ‘Rita Blonde’.”

Today, women – many of them non-white – flock to her salon for the Midas touch. “If you’re ethnic, you can’t go blonde-on-blonde-on-blonde. You need depth,” Hazan says, “especially around the hairline, otherwise everything blends into one.” My own London colourist, Andrei Alexe, agrees. “I’ll always find a way to make someone blonde. Don’t believe it when they say you can’t,” he says, folding my hair into foils. His “Alexeyage” technique layers tone upon tone to create a blonde that evolves with time.

I mull all of this over with John Allan, the stylist who cuts my layers every fortnight, who tells me that blondes are his most difficult clients. “Blonde isn’t a hair colour, it’s a *lifestyle*: it’s high-maintenance, it’s expensive to upkeep and it’s the opposite of effortless.” He pauses. “And then there’s ‘blonde blindness’.” I raise one of my dark eyebrows. “Most blondes can never be blonde enough. They want it brighter, lighter. It’s like wearing a crown of thorns.”

What can I say? It’s true.

My blonde hair is a sacred extension of self – a talisman of femininity. Lightening it has lightened my life, illuminating a version of me I always suspected existed. Sure, it’s high-maintenance and, like Goldilocks before me, it’s taken a few tries to find the right fit of warm honey, but it’s an act of self-indulgence and hours of free therapy. My mother has come to accept my increasingly golden tones, although she gets excited at the prospect of a grown-out root signalling a return to brunette. I, however, love how the caramel glows against my brown skin, dark features and kajal-rimmed eyes. It catches people off-guard and I relish the dissonance. Among rows of blonde women, *my* blondeness makes my brownness unmistakable. The contrast is the point – the medium is the message.

And besides, it looks good. I know it. The people who stare for a bit too long know it – even if they pretend to be disgusted. That is what being blonde is all about: the audacity to define womanhood and identity on your own terms, even if the world has already decided for you.

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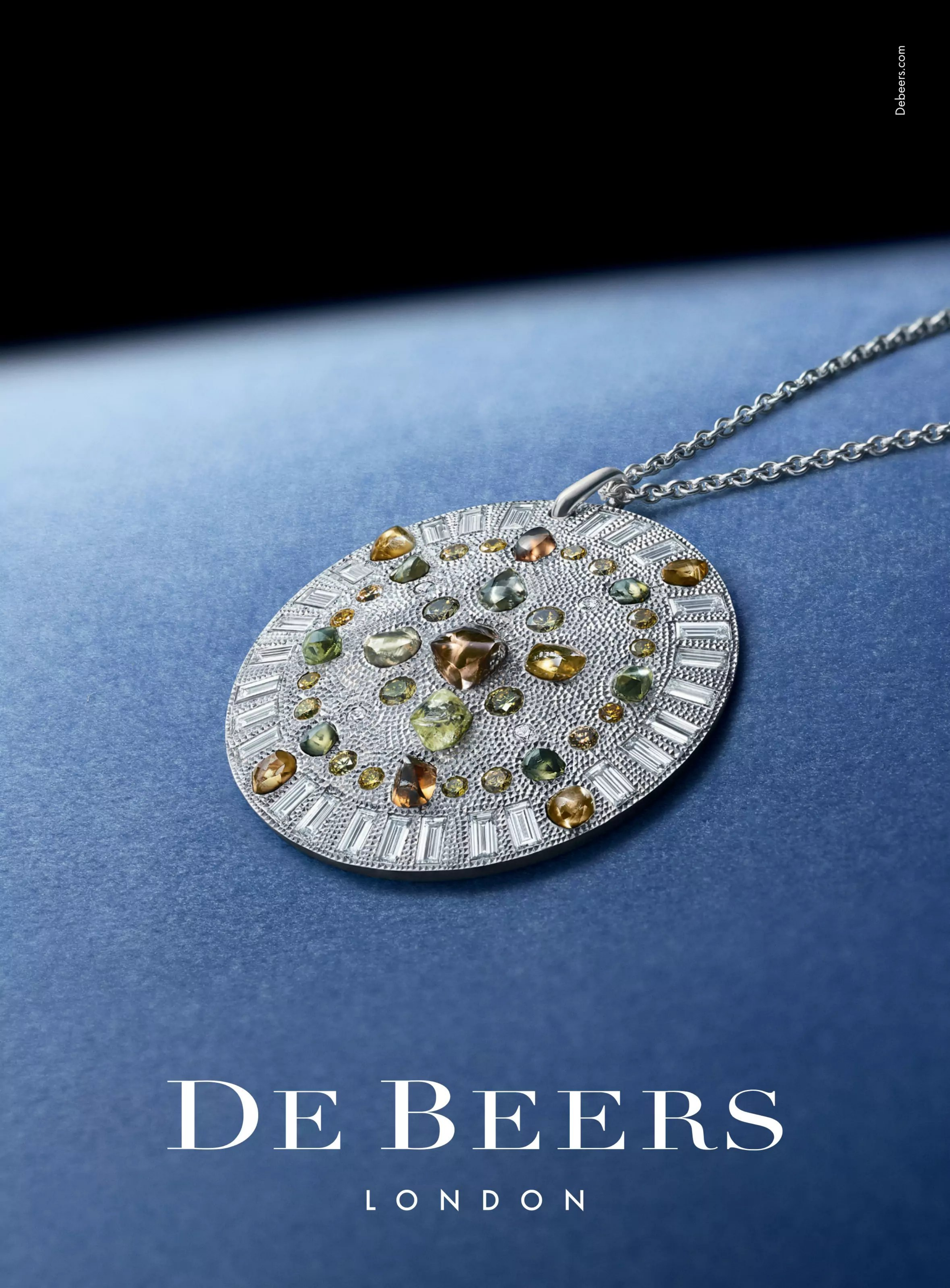
SUMMER HAZE

Inspired by far-flung DESTINATIONS *and in tones of sunset hues, let your holiday be your* FRAGRANCE *muse. Photograph by* OTTO MASTERS

ARMANI/PRIVE
IRIS
BLEU
DOLCE & GABBANA
L’IMPERATRICE
ELADARIA
MUSE
INSPIRING
INK
ELVES

Clockwise from left: DOLCE & GABBANA *L’Imperatrice eau de toilette, £69.* TOM FORD *Bois Pacifique eau de parfum, £108.* ARMANI PRIVÉ *Iris Bleu eau de toilette, £200.* CREED *Eladaria eau de parfum, £265.* YSL BEAUTY *Muse eau de parfum, £220.* LOUIS VUITTON *ELVes eau de parfum, £260*

SET DESIGN: KIARA GOURLAY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VOGUE 25

From law COURTS *to* SPORTS *fields, blockbuster sets to behind the* LENS, *Vogue honours the 25 most influential* WOMEN *defining Britain today. Photographs by* LOLA & PANI. *Styling by* JESSICA GERARDI

Amal Clooney

As one of the most accomplished human rights barristers working today, Amal Clooney has built a remarkable reputation as a supreme defender of those who have suffered systemic abuse, particularly women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence. "I'm constantly moved by the courage of those who pursue truth even when that comes at a great personal cost: journalists who dare to speak truth to power, young women who refuse to be silenced," Clooney tells *Vogue*. In 2019, she and her husband, George, launched the Clooney Foundation for Justice, which provides free legal aid in over 40 countries. The greatest challenge she faces in the pursuit of justice? "Apathy. There will always be injustice, cruelty and abuses of power," she continues. "But if the good people – those who don't agree with what is happening – stay quiet, it becomes very difficult to effect change. If there is more cowardice than courage in the corridors of power – in governments, companies – it is very difficult to improve the system. Yet I believe that justice must be waged, it is not something that simply happens on its own. The arc of history doesn't bend toward justice: individuals have to pull it that way." >

Robes, Amal's own. Amal's hair & make-up: DIMITRIS GIANNETOS

Chloe Qisha

“Pop is my everything,” says a delighted Chloe Qisha. There’s a lot to be excited about right now for the Malaysia-born, London-based 27-year-old. Last year, the singer’s rapid ascent began in one of the more unconventional ways – her earworm “I Lied, I’m Sorry” was covered by Kelly Clarkson on daytime TV, followed by Chris Martin crediting Qisha’s self-titled debut EP for helping him overcome depression. All the while, she’s released her follow-up, the ’80s-tinged *Modern Romance*, topped seemingly everyone’s “to watch” list and became a fully fledged pop sensation. She’s got the nerve of an industry vet too. “I have yet to be scared by it all. I think that’s a good thing.”

Isabel Quiroga

For over a decade, transplant and endocrinology surgeon Dr Isabel Quiroga and her fellow researchers at the Oxford Transplant Centre have been fixated on one thing: perfecting the womb transplant. In 2023, their efforts were realised with the first op of its kind in the UK. Flash forward two years and the first baby via womb transplant has been born. Amy Isabel – named after the donor and Quiroga – arrived in February 2025 to the delight of her parents, Grace and Angus, opening a door for hopeful parents-to-be everywhere.

The Princess Royal

Twenty-twenty-four was an unprecedented year for the royal family. Princess Anne, widely regarded as the "hardest working royal" remained steadfast as the King and Princess of Wales stepped away from the public eye to focus on their respective cancer treatments, taking on a staggering 217 public engagements last year alone. In August, the only daughter of the late Queen will turn 75, marking three quarters of a century dedicated to representing the nation, and she shows no signs of slowing down.

Anastasia Bukhman

Not yet a household name, that fact is about to change. Along with her husband Igor, cofounder of Playrix, Russian-born, London based Anastasia Bukhman is expected to donate nine figures to British institutions in the coming years, promising to make her one of the country's most powerful philanthropists. Art – and access to it – is her passion and an area of focus, alongside education and Type 1 diabetes research, of the Bukhman Foundation. Among her first beneficiaries? The National Portrait Gallery and Diabetes UK.

Lucy Bronze

Lucy Bronze never expected to be one of the best footballers in England. In fact, for many years she "didn't even see it as a career path". Playing with the boys until she was no longer allowed to at the age of 12 ("my auntie threatened to sue the FA because of the rule"), her journey to the top – via stints at Liverpool, Manchester City, Lyon and Barcelona before landing at Chelsea in 2024 – has seen the 33-year-old become the most decorated female player in the country. "The women's game is thriving," says Bronze, who recalls fundraising for match-day transport as a teenager. "I grew up being the only girl playing [football] where I lived. Now, there's six or seven girls teams back home." Now, fresh off the high of another Women's Super League win – determined by a championship-winning header by Bronze – her sights are firmly set on the Uefa Women's Euros, where the Lionesses will defend their title. If there are any nerves, Bronze doesn't let them show. "I always wanted to play football," she says with a grin. "No matter what." >

Opposite: leather jacket, faux fur bandeau top, canvas skirt, and chain belt, SIMONE ROCHA.

This page: jacket and wool polo shirt, MIU MIU. *Cargo trousers,* GAUCHERE. *Gold and diamond locket,* DE BEERS

Houndstooth coat and wool rollneck, BALENCIAGA. *Velvet shoes,* CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN. *Munroe's hair:* JAY BIRMINGHAM

Munroe Bergdorf

There couldn't be a more urgent time for Munroe Bergdorf's *Love & Rage* to premiere. Filmed over four years – at home, at work, in public – the documentary is a deeply personal look into the model and activist's life, and, so too, a broader look at trans life in the UK. In a time when hate crimes against transgender people are frighteningly high, and anti-trans rhetoric continues to fester in the media and in the legal system (in April, the UK Supreme Court unanimously ruled that a woman is defined by biological sex under equalities law, further motivating gender critical activists), Bergdorf's voice resonates louder than ever. "Transitioning, in itself, is the hope that you will live the life that you want to live one day," says Bergdorf. "I feel really lucky to be able to exercise that hope on a daily basis."

Frances Ryan

Whether lifting the lid on the government's cuts to disability benefits or giving insight into highly emotive topics such as the assisted dying bill, Frances Ryan's reporting and writing on the state of disability rights has become essential reading. Her latest book, *Who Wants Normal?*, published earlier this year, is a memoir-cum-manifesto exploring the key elements of life through the lens of a Disabled person. As one in four of us in the UK will experience disability, Ryan's efforts to spotlight lives of Disabled people are needed more than ever.

Adejoké Bakare

Between 2020 and 2023, chef Adejoké Bakare went from running a pop-up in Brixton to opening a permanent restaurant, Chishuru, in Fitzrovia. By autumn of 2024, she had been awarded a Michelin star, making her the first Black woman in the UK – and just the second worldwide – to be recognised by the guide. Praised for her take on modern Nigerian cooking, Bakare is at the forefront of a food movement putting West African cuisine at the heart of London fine dining.

Rachel Reeves

When Rachel Reeves was named chancellor of the exchequer by Keir Starmer, she made history as the first woman ever to hold the office. In the face of multiple complex challenges, she has been dogged in her pursuit to grow the economy, often sacrificing popular opinion in the process. Though she has been deeply criticised, by voters and colleagues alike, for some of her decisions and actions, the power she wields over the economy – and, as such, our day-to-day lives – is unquestionable.

Keira Knightley

Keira Knightley has been a constant in cinema for more than two decades, but when, last December, the Oscar-nominated actor appeared in Netflix spy megahit *Black Doves*, it heralded something of a new chapter for the British star. As Helen Webb – a furious assassin moonlighting as the perfect political wife – Knightley's dual lives (however outlandish) resonated with many of the millions of women watching. So did her refreshingly filler-free face. "I was like, 'Jesus Christ, there are more wrinkles there than I can see with my naked eye,'" Knightley says, with a laugh, of her close-ups. With filming underway for series two, super yacht-set thriller *The Woman In Cabin 10* to be released this year, as well as the publication of her first children's book, *I Love You Just The Same*, Knightley, recently 40, has clearly entered a new era of her own. "It's quite nice to have lived your life and have lived experiences," she says. "And be like, 'Well, I've been through that and I've come out the other side. And here we are and it's all a bit chaotic, but you can go on.'"

>

Denim gilet, cotton shirt, and jeans, CHANEL. *Keira's hair:* LUKE HERSHESON. *Keira's make-up:* LISA ELDRIDGE

BEAUTY & BRILLIANCE

DE BEERS*'s Talisman collection harnesses the* NATURAL *beauty of* UNPOLISHED *diamonds to* EMPOWER *and* INSPIRE

CHOOSING JEWELLERY IS an intensely personal process. It's about the way you relate to certain pieces: what they make you feel, as well as their effect on the way you present yourself to the world. The right piece of jewellery can feel empowering, not to mention providing the ideal finishing touch for a great outfit.

The Talisman collection from luxury jewellery house De Beers is all about the connection you have with your jewellery. Bold, amulet-like pieces combine both polished and rough diamonds, and are designed to be stacked, layered and styled in a way that's entirely yours. They're tactile too, designed to be held, worn and felt, rubbed between finger and thumb to tap into their talismanic power.

Rough diamonds are diamonds, but not as you might know them. In the Talisman collection, De Beers uses stones selected by its in-house diamond expert for their particular beauty, each as unique as the woman who will later find herself drawn to it. The diamonds remain exactly as they were discovered in nature – think organic shapes, unusual textures, and yellow, green and brown hues – meaning no two pieces of jewellery are the same. Talisman is a celebration of diamonds' raw beauty, and their history as a symbol of strength and protection.

Based in London but inspired by the nature and landscape of its Southern African roots, the design-led jewellery house uses these unpolished diamonds in a way that feels entirely contemporary. First launched in 2005, Talisman is perhaps loved most by those in the know for its bold medallion pendants. Concentric circles of unique stones in various sizes and colours adorn hand-hammered rose, yellow or white gold. Wear yours peeking out from a crisp poplin shirt, styled with this season's wide-leg trousers, or let it sing against bare skin and a deep V-neckline for an elevated classic evening look.

Another day-to-night win comes in the form of Talisman's rings. Tap into the trend of mixing different metals or combine different styles and sizes – most of the rings are designed for stacking – or take the same approach to the collection's equally covetable bangles.

De Beers believes that true brilliance comes from within and, put simply, how you wear your jewellery – and the attitude with which you do it – allows you to express that brilliance in a way that feels entirely yours.

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1. Medallion, price on request. 2. Earrings. price on request. 3. Ring, £8,550. 4. Bangle, £9,150. 5. Ring, £4,975. 6. Earrings, £9,250. 7. Ring, £27,000. All DE BEERS

Talisman is a CELEBRATION *of diamonds' raw* BEAUTY, *and their history as a symbol of* STRENGTH *and protection*

Perminder Mann

Last year, Perminder Mann became the president of the Publishers Association, the first woman of colour to be appointed to the role in its then 128-year history. Now, she is stepping into the top job at Simon & Schuster International, where she will lead teams in the UK, Australia and India. If the eight preceding years, when she was the boss of Bonnier Books, were spent "building a house", at Simon & Schuster she is, she says, "renovating". "I need to reset the culture," says Mann of the job that lies ahead of her. "We need a rebrand. It's not just about having great books, it's about how we publish them, the way we publish them, growing our audiences and embracing the digital revolution."

Cashmere coat, MAX MARA. *Cotton T-shirt, leather skirt, and leather boots,* TOTEME. *Gold and white- and yellow-diamond chandelier earrings,* DE BEERS

Nicola Packer

This May, following a years-long case, Nicola Packer was acquitted of having an illegal abortion, after complications arose from taking pills by post during lockdown. Her story has become a touchpoint for the rise in the prosecution of women seeking abortions. In spite of her ordeal, Packer wants to use her voice to campaign for legislative change to ensure nobody else goes through what she has. "I can't really say it was worth it," she has said, "but at least it would have meant something."

Rosemary Coogan

In 2022, Northern Irish astrophysicist Dr Rosemary Coogan was picked from 22,500 applicants to be one of five of the European Space Agency's fresh intake of career astronauts. Having completed her training last year, Coogan is preparing to be just the third UK astronaut to travel to space, following in the legendary footsteps of Tim Peake and Helen Sharman. Coogan is living proof that a girlhood dream can actually become a reality.

The Princess of Wales

In joyful remission from her cancer diagnosis, the future Queen carries herself with the air of someone with her priorities in order: family, country, philanthropy. From her work on early years development to her championing of the arts, recently *Vogue* took particular note of her warm and informed presentation of the Queen Elizabeth II Award for British Design to Patrick McDowell – when it comes to shining a light, no one brings more wattage.

Dilara Findikoglu

At a time when personal style appears to have been usurped by algorithmic uniform dressing, it is little surprise that London-based, Turkish-born designer Dilara Findikoglu's rebellious, sexy and undeniably feminist point of view is getting her noticed. Her designs – corseted, gothic, provocative – have found their way into the wardrobes of everyone from Kim Kardashian and Charli XCX to Hailey Bieber and Lady Gaga, and worn everywhere from the Met Gala and Oscars afterparties to the headline stage at Coachella. Still, the Central Saint Martins graduate maintains that she "makes clothes for a bigger purpose". "I want to make women shine more, more, more! So they can't be silenced," she says. "Whoever wants to be fed from this magic, I think they should be wearing Dilara." >

Clothes and hat, Dilara's own

Phoebe Philo

Since taking on her first creative directorship at Chloé in 2001, followed by an era-defining decade at Céline, Phoebe Philo is today among the egregiously few women at the top of fashion. Now running her own namesake label, Philo's sell-out designs – the mum necklace, the super-rounded heels, the leather jackets – are as influential as ever. Her decision to forgo fashion's seasonal structure (along with the enduring mystery of her private life) reaffirms the idea of charting one's own course.

Jane Goodall

Eever since she first travelled from England to what is now Tanzania in July 1960, aged 26, to begin her revolutionising research into chimpanzees, Dr Jane Goodall has tirelessly worked to raise awareness of environmental crises and the threat to conservation around the world. Today, at 91, her dedication is unwavering, and her ability to inspire others on matters of the planet is still as potent as ever (listen to her recent appearance on the *Call Her Daddy* podcast). A true pioneer.

Emma Matell

Not yet 30, casting director Emma Matell is already reshaping the face of fashion – and, with it, what it means to be considered desirable at a time when beauty standards are in danger of backsliding. Known for her razor-sharp street casting, she has put people of all races, sizes, abilities and gender identities on the runway and in campaigns. Be it global giants or cult favourites (think: Sinéad O'Dwyer and All-In), Matell's vision begs the question: why hasn't this always been the norm?

Coated linen coat,
JIL SANDER

Sonia Friedman

The year 2025 marks another sensational year for Sonia Friedman's eponymous theatre production company, responsible for some of the most illustrious, era-defining shows in both the West End and on Broadway. From record-breaking commercial juggernauts including *The Book of Mormon* and *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* to influential contemporary classics such as *Jerusalem*. Next up? *Paddington: The Musical*. And yet, in the three-plus decades she has worked in the industry, it was only this year, with an adaptation of Annie Ernaux's *The Years,* that she felt she was "producing a piece of work that was about me". "This was the first piece of theatre where it was like, 'Oh, this is my story, our story, the women's story.' That's been quite a shock that it's taken this amount of time to see that on a commercial stage." While there are endless stories she still wishes to tell, much keeps her awake at night. Chief among her worries? The cutting of school trips to the theatre and drama from the curriculum. "You take culture out of society, you have no society," she warns.

Wool/alpaca coat, DRIES VAN NOTEN. *Top,* STELLA McCARTNEY. *Gold and multicoloured diamond hoop earrings and gold and multicoloured diamond necklace,* DE BEERS

Pamela Maynard

As Microsoft's first chief AI transformation officer, the Black British Business Awards person of the year Pamela Maynard has a clear mission: to bridge the gap between artificial intelligence and the world we live in. "AI can help us to solve some of the world's biggest challenges," says Maynard, noting advances in healthcare and education. But after some 30 years in this industry, six of those as CEO of Avanade, Microsoft's tech consultancy arm and home to 60,000 employees, she is keenly aware of the concerns surrounding its rapid ubiquity in everyday life. Should we be scared of AI? "We have to make sure that people understand how to use it in a safe and a responsible way." >

Wool trouser suit, ERDEM. *Cotton T-shirt,* MARGARET HOWELL. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information. Hair:* STELIOS CHONDROS. *Make-up:* CRYSTABEL EFEMENA RILEY. *Nails:* ROBBIE TOMKINS. *Set design:* JULIA DIAS

Victoria Siddall

When Victoria Siddall took the helm of the National Portrait Gallery last year, becoming the first woman to preside over the almost 170-year-old institution, it was at the start of a new chapter for the gallery following an extensive £41 million refurbishment. "I've come in with a really open mind as to what a museum can and should be for the future," she says. Six months into the role, the former global director of Frieze doesn't just want to "keep things ticking over" but to think about how the NPG "serves its audiences and be truly national, but also playful and experimental and innovative". At its best, she continues, "A museum can open your mind and create cohesion and understanding of people who are not like you." But these spaces require nourishment. "Cultural soft power is our greatest export," she says, "but it needs infrastructure, it needs funding and it needs celebrating."

Isamaya Ffrench

One of the most sought-after make-up artists working today, Isamaya Ffrench's clients run the gamut from Madonna to Bella Hadid, while brands from Burberry to Byredo have queued up to collaborate with her. Yet in 2025, the cogniscenti's favourite glam girl levelled up, evolving her eponymous brand "drops" into large-scale retail takeovers that are bringing her nonconformist, genderless beauty approach to the masses. "I want this make-up to be weapons for truth," she has said. "Honest and uninhibited – that's how I see it."

Nadia Lee Cohen

Photographer and film-maker Nadia Lee Cohen's portfolio gleams: Kate Moss, Rihanna, Beyoncé and Kim Kardashian have all called upon the 32-year-old Essex girl of late, itching to be in her retro-tinged, glamorous vignettes, while the luxury world (Schiaparelli, Saint Laurent, Balenciaga) is similarly smitten. Equally compelling are her passion projects – such as *Julie Bullard*, published in June, created with Martin Parr – which stars Cohen as a reincarnation of her '90s babysitter. She's as formidable in front of the lens as she is behind it.

Sue Carr

Dame Sue Carr's appointment to the role of lady chief justice in 2023 was a monumental one: not only is she the first woman to preside over the judicial system since the role was created nearly 800 years ago, but it marks a major step in diversifying the judiciary – progress she is tasked with continuing while in position. As only a third of court judges and just two of the current 12 judges of the Supreme Court are women, there is still a long way to go to achieve gender parity within the UK's judiciary.

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SENSUALITY.
As for the sceptics,
Lena Dunham is HERE
to remind us to never
lose HOPE *when it comes*
to matters of the HEART –
The ONE *might be just*
a page turn AWAY

Star power

For close to a decade now DUA LIPA has captivated music charts, non-stop media ATTENTION and the hearts of millions of fans across the globe. As she turns 30 this SUMMER – with WEMBLEY in her sights, and a wedding to plan too – GABY WOOD joins her on tour, and discovers Britain's reigning queen of POP feeling stronger than ever.

Photographs by DAVID SIMS. Styling by CAMILLA NICKERSON

"Nothing's impossible," says Dua Lipa. "You've just got to get up and do it."

Satin bra, MIU MIU.
Silk/wool knickers,
GIVENCHY BY
SARAH BURTON.
Hand-painted felt headdress,
NERIDA FRAIMAN

“I feel good when I’m sharing my energy with people on stage. There’s just so much of that that makes me really proud of my body and the way it holds me.”

Bra and knickers, as before

Bustier dress, CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION. *Leather corset*, GIVENCHY BY SARAH BURTON. *Latex lingerie*, ELISSA POPPY. *Satin shoes*, AMINA MUADDI

Leather bra, GIVENCHY BY SARAH BURTON. *Fringed wool and leather skirt with belt,* HODAKOVA. *Gloves with bangle detail,* SACAI

“I feel like I’m so much nicer when I like my outfit. And I love to dress up whenever there’s a fun night out.”

Embroidered lace top, CHLOÉ. *Silk bra,* GIVENCHY BY SARAH BURTON

Embellished minidress,
DILARA FINDIKOGLU

Madrid, 8.45pm on a Monday night in May. It's 15 minutes before showtime on the first European stop of her *Radical Optimism* tour and, behind giant metal doors at the Movistar Arena, Dua Lipa is in a huddle with her dancers and her band. She's wearing a corseted bodysuit in pale blue satin designed for her by Jean Paul Gaultier with knee-high glitter boots and fishnet tights.

"I love performing with you guys," she says, before putting her arm into the middle of the circle and leading them in a ritual chant as they move their hands up and down together: "Be electric, baby! Be electric, baby! Be electric, baby… *Madrid!*"

They hug each other in turn. Something is brewing right from this moment: a family feeling, the first flutters of a party.

Dua's parents head out to the centre of the auditorium and position themselves near a mixing desk worthy of Nasa. Her mum, Anesa, is nervous, as she always is before Dua performs, but she'll be fine once Dua's on stage.

Fans who've been camped outside the building since midday are finally in, and the bleachers are packed.

Behind the stage, the dancers take their places for the two-hour marathon. In half-darkness and without fanfare, Dua jogs up a set of metal stairs, mic in hand. She steps onto the riser that will lift her to the top of the stage and waits. The lights go down. On giant screens, an ocean roars. Sixteen-thousand fans scream as one.

"Adrenaline is an incredible drug," she'd told me. "I can hear people screaming before I'm even on. That's when my heart starts racing. Moments before, I'm like: 'Oh, my God, we're doing this.' And I'm ready to go."

Rewind three weeks: Dua and I meet for dinner at Mountain, a popular Michelin-star restaurant in London's Soho. It's just after Easter, which she has spent with her partner, the actor Callum Turner, at her family's seaside home in Albania. Rested and happy to be back, she's been in the studio all day, planting the first seeds of a new album, figuring out where she wants to go next. Each day she ends up with a new song. "It's like going home with a little present," she says.

Just three studio albums in, Dua Lipa is a record-breaking, multi-platinum megastar, with three Grammys and seven Brit Awards under her belt. She's the first woman artist to have five tracks with over two billion streams on Spotify, and the first artist to be livestreamed to a global audience from the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury. The latter was just last year, along with very different concerts at the Royal Albert Hall and in New York's Times Square. Her two upcoming shows at Wembley Stadium sold out in minutes.

"That's definitely been a massive dream," she says, "and it's going to be quite surreal. You know, stadiums: that seems pretty scary."

Her overall aim, she tells me, is to turn big spaces into little nightclubs. And her biggest fear is: "as the rooms get bigger, how do you make them feel just as intimate?" Retaining that connection with an audience at Wembley, she admits, is "no easy task".

"How are you going to do it?" I ask.

"You just never really know until the night comes," she says.

When someone told Dua, just recently, that her hit song "Be The One" would be 10 years old in October she realised she'd been on tour for the past decade. She began to take stock: how she feels in herself, how happy she is in her relationship, of the things that matter. She says she feels very "woman".

"I turn 30 in August," she explains over dinner, "and I've been thinking about it a lot, because your 20s are just so tumultuous in the way you think about yourself and your body. And I don't know, now I feel like I've come to a place – I've become better at taking care of myself and working out and dancing. I feel the most confident I've ever felt. I feel very empowered and strong in my body. I feel good when I'm sharing my energy with people on stage. There's just so much of that that makes me really proud of my body and the way it holds me."

Tonight there's a kind of human helium about her, which lifts our conversation to a mild register of natural joy. Her dark eyes are decorated with a curl of mascara, her skin sun-kissed and glowing. As she speaks – in the low voice now recognisable the world over – she plays with the gold hoop in her left ear and occasionally flicks her shiny black hair over her shoulder like a mane. She's wearing Calvin Klein jeans and a grey Shushu/Tong top with a white shirt collar. "I feel like I'm so much nicer when I like my outfit," she says with a smile. "You know what I mean? My everyday stuff is very low maintenance," she adds. "And then I love to dress up whenever there's a fun night out." Days after this encounter she will appear at the Met Gala wearing a custom black Chanel dress inspired by the 1920s dancer and civil rights activist Josephine Baker.

In the last three years Lipa has broadened her empire: after her father took over her management in 2022 she bought back the rights to her songs and signed a publishing deal with Warner Chappell Music – just one of many plates her media company, Radical22, is spinning, along with a film production arm, her global editorial platform Service95 and an influential book club. She has become known not just as singer but as a savvy businesswoman, an outspoken champion of social justice and an omnivorous cultural guide.

"If you were going to choose her as some type of role model, she would not steer you wrong," says Patti Smith, who Dua interviewed for her book club. "You know, she's fun-loving, she cares about people – that's in parallel to having a real thirst for knowledge. She's fighting to seek protection from AI, which is something that affects all of us. She's not afraid to speak out for displaced people. She's very independent, she's interested in many cultural topics. She really takes hold of being alive. It's exciting to watch someone continue to grow."

For this article Dua put me in touch with her closest friends, and with her mother and sister – people who've never spoken about her publicly before. In a symbolic gesture to mark her newfound sense of power, we agreed that all of them would be women. The stories they have to tell are remarkably consistent. They point out Dua's loyalty; how important family is to her; the fact that everyone always knew she could sing; the fact that she has always been sure of what she wanted. They say how proud they are of her, and how happy that she's with Callum.

When I asked one of them where they imagined Dua would be in 10 years' time, she conjured an image of this whole group of friends living on a communal farm and "popping over for some carrots that Dua's growing".

"I can imagine her with a little farm shop," her friend Sarah said, with "kids and 12 dogs". I suggested that this hardly mapped onto Dua's life as a global pop icon. "You'd be surprised," came the reply.

Dua first met Callum at The River Cafe in London – she was having dinner with her dad, he was out with friends. They were introduced by the restaurant's cofounder, Ruth Rogers, but they'd almost met many times before.

"There's a lot of *Sliding Doors* moments," Dua explains. In 2014, she was working at La Bodega Negra; there's a photo of him outside the same Soho spot that exact same year. In 2020, they went to the same last pre-lockdown party – they later found they had photos with the same guy in the background, one hour apart. "We have so many friends in common," she says.

A year after their brief encounter at the restaurant, Dua was in LA having dinner with her friend Mustafa the Poet, "and all of a sudden Callum shows up". She thought: "Oh, it's that really hot guy from The River Cafe." He asked her what she was reading. She said Hernan Diaz's novel *Trust*. "And we both just happened to be reading the same book." Does all of that make you feel you were destined to be together? "One thousand per cent."

Towards the end of last year Dua posted photos on Instagram in which eagle-eyed followers spotted what looked like an engagement ring. She went on to give the large diamond increasing prominence without ever confirming the rumours.

"Yeah, we're engaged," she says over dinner. "It's very exciting." She tells me Callum had the ring made for her after consulting her best friends and her sister. "I'm obsessed with it. It's so me. It's nice to know the person that you're going to spend the rest of your life with knows you very well."

As for the wedding: no plans yet. "I want to finish my tour, Callum's shooting, so we're just enjoying this period. I've never been someone who's really thought about a wedding, or dreamt about what kind of bride I would be. All of a sudden I'm like: 'Oh, what would I wear?'" She says she's seen many people get engaged "and never really understood the weight of it". Now she realises: "This decision to grow old together, to see a life and just, I don't know, be best friends forever – it's a really special feeling."

When a member of staff comes to take our order we dither over whether to get the steak, and decide that if we don't finish it one of us can always take it home. "I'm sure Cal would be very happy about that," Dua says. The server laughs and says she never knows if people are talking about their partners or their dogs. "Do you know what?" Dua adds, "In this case, if you've got the bone, we'll take the bone for the dog."

Dua has inherited Turner's rottweiler-labrador mix, and walking Golo together in the park every morning is her "favourite thing in the world". Despite their busy working lives, she and Callum have a two-and-a-half week rule: they won't be apart for longer. For her Antipodean tour earlier this year they had to break it – three weeks – and found that very hard. At home, they cook – Dua's roast dinners are, her friends report, to die for. When they travel together they explore restaurants and buy vinyl in every city. They're listening to a lot of Chris Stapleton (Dua performed a duet with him last year); Sade and Erykah Badu are currently on repeat.

"I'd love to have kids one day," Dua says. "But it's like the constant question of when would there ever be a good time – how it would fit in with my job and how it would work if I went on tour, and how much time out I'd have to take. I think it's just one of those things that's going to happen when it happens. I love kids, but I think there's so much more to raising a child than just loving children."

I first met Dua in 2022, when she gave the keynote speech at the Booker Prize winner ceremony, just before she launched her book club. At the time, a few sceptical eyebrows were raised among the literati over whether a pop star could really be as serious as Lipa turned out to be. She instantly persuaded them with her honesty and poise, and has since become lauded as an intelligent, empathetic interviewer, who offers heartfelt evidence of what a writer's work has meant to her.

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"This DECISION *to grow old* TOGETHER, *to see a life and just, I don't know, be best friends* FOREVER *– it's a really* SPECIAL *feeling"*

“Adrenaline is an incredible drug. I can hear people screaming before I’m even on. That’s when my heart starts racing.”

Upcycled leather bustier dress, MARINE SERRE

Satin bra, WHAT KATIE DID. *Duchesse satin skirt with chain detail*, SIMONE ROCHA. *Shoes, as before*

Padded satin corset, MARINE SERRE. *Shoes, as before*

"I want to start people dancing and I want them to leave for home dancing – and I guess that is to do with my love of going out and bringing people together in that time."

Leather top, MARTINE ROSE. *Quilted leather shorts,* HERMÈS

Leather bra, leather gauntlets, and leather skirt, GIVENCHY BY SARAH BURTON

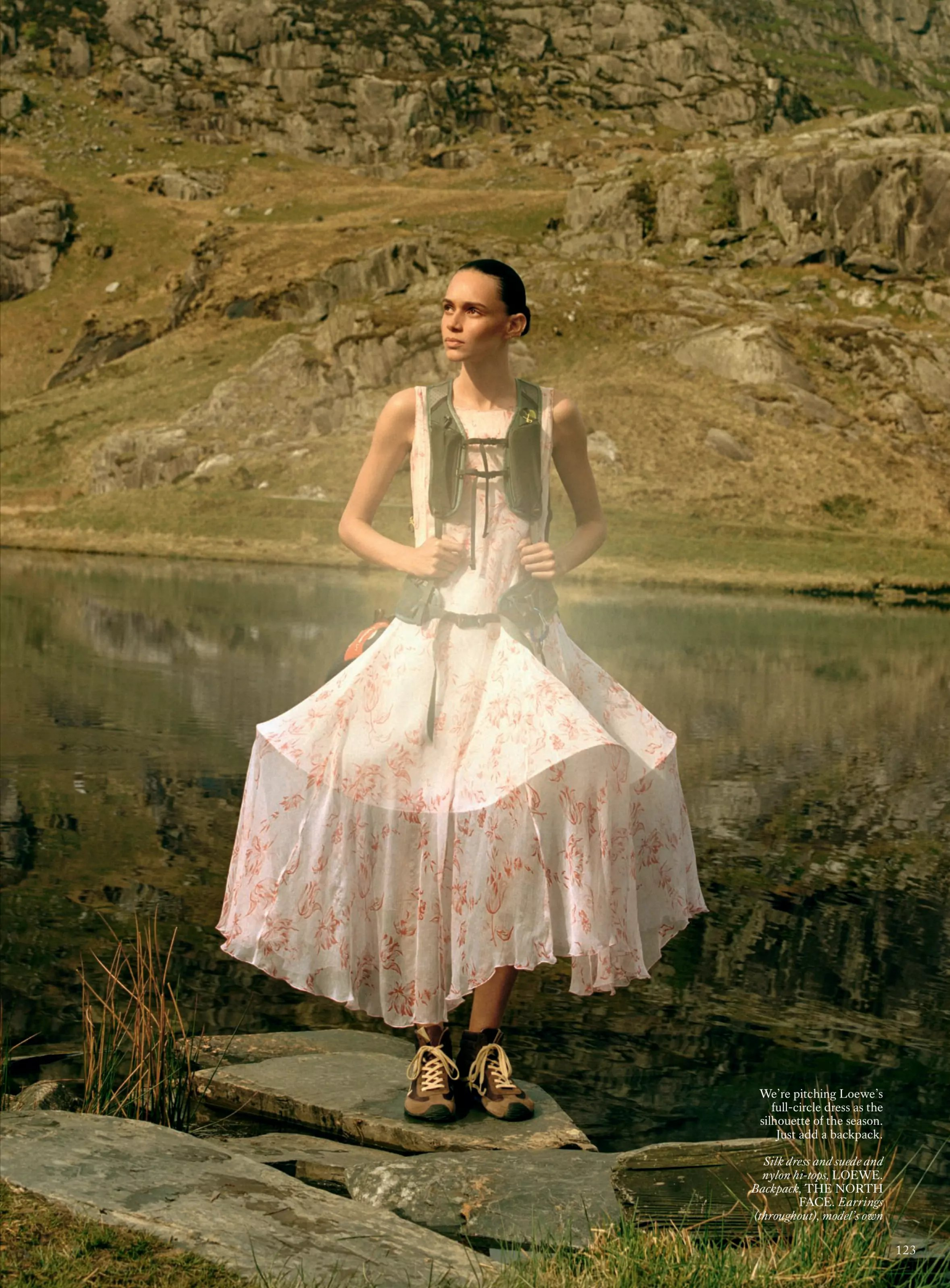
"I don't think I've ever truly been heartbroken... The crux of it is that everything that's happened in my life never felt like a loss, but a lesson."

Bra and miniskirt, DILARA FINDIKOGLU. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information.* *Hair:* OLIVIER SCHAWALDER. *Make-up:* YADIM. *Nails:* MICHELLE HUMPHREY. *Set design:* POPPY BARTLETT. *Production:* ERIN FEE PRODUCTIONS. *Digital artwork:* SKN-LAB

Peak SEASON

Mountain high, VALLEY *low – spring/summer's affinity for all-terrain* ADVENTURE *goes hand in hand with its* DREAMIEST *pieces.*

Photographs by MALICK BODIAN. *Styling by* JULIA SARR-JAMOIS



We're pitching Loewe's full-circle dress as the silhouette of the season. Just add a backpack.

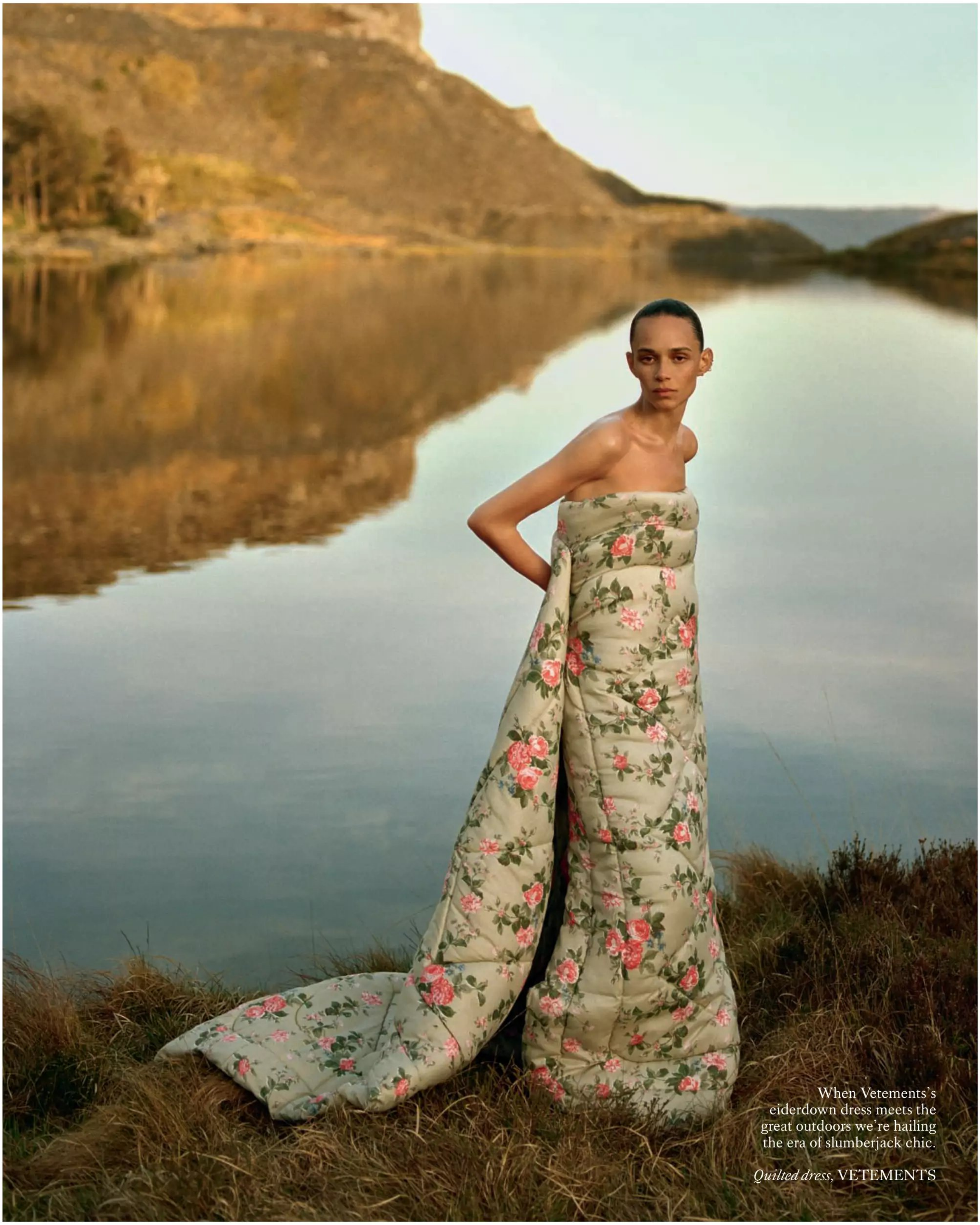
Silk dress and suede and nylon hi-tops, LOEWE. *Backpack,* THE NORTH FACE. *Earrings (throughout), model's own*

Parachute in a posy of prints courtesy of Dolce & Gabbana's garden florals.

Cotton/silk coat, cotton/silk dress, and leather boots, DOLCE & GABBANA

This is not a drill! Gucci refashions military fatigues with a runway twist.

Cotton canvas bomber jacket and cotton canvas midiskirt, GUCCI. *Quilted hood*, MARFA STANCE. *Socks*, PANTHERELLA. *Hi-tops*, ADIDAS BY STELLA McCARTNEY. *Backpack*, THE NORTH FACE



When Vetements's eiderdown dress meets the great outdoors we're hailing the era of slumberjack chic.

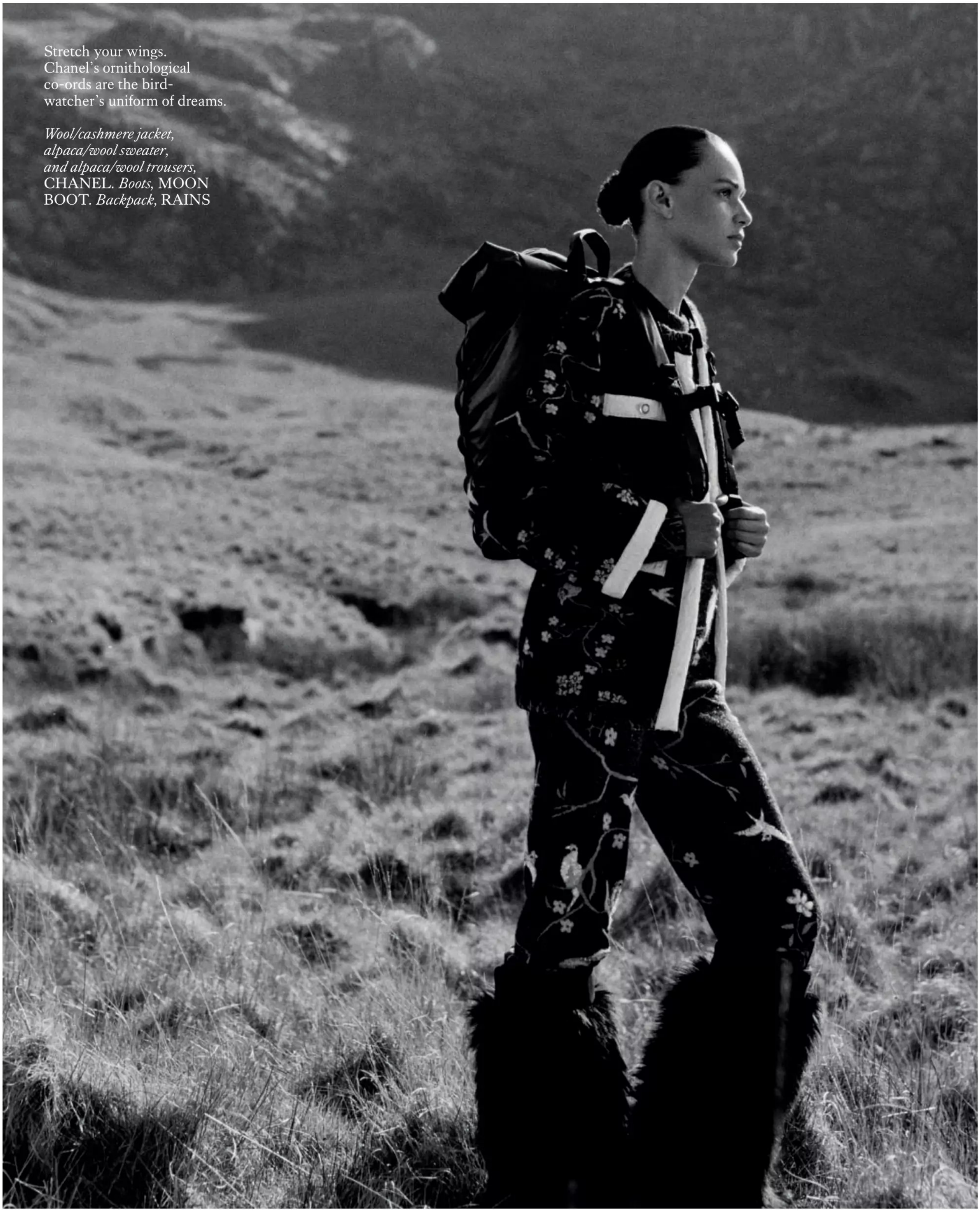
Quilted dress, VETEMENTS

Field of vision. Burberry's capelet is a golden idea for those who *don't* do anoraks.

Capelet with faux feather trim and linen trousers, BURBERRY. *Boots,* MOON BOOT

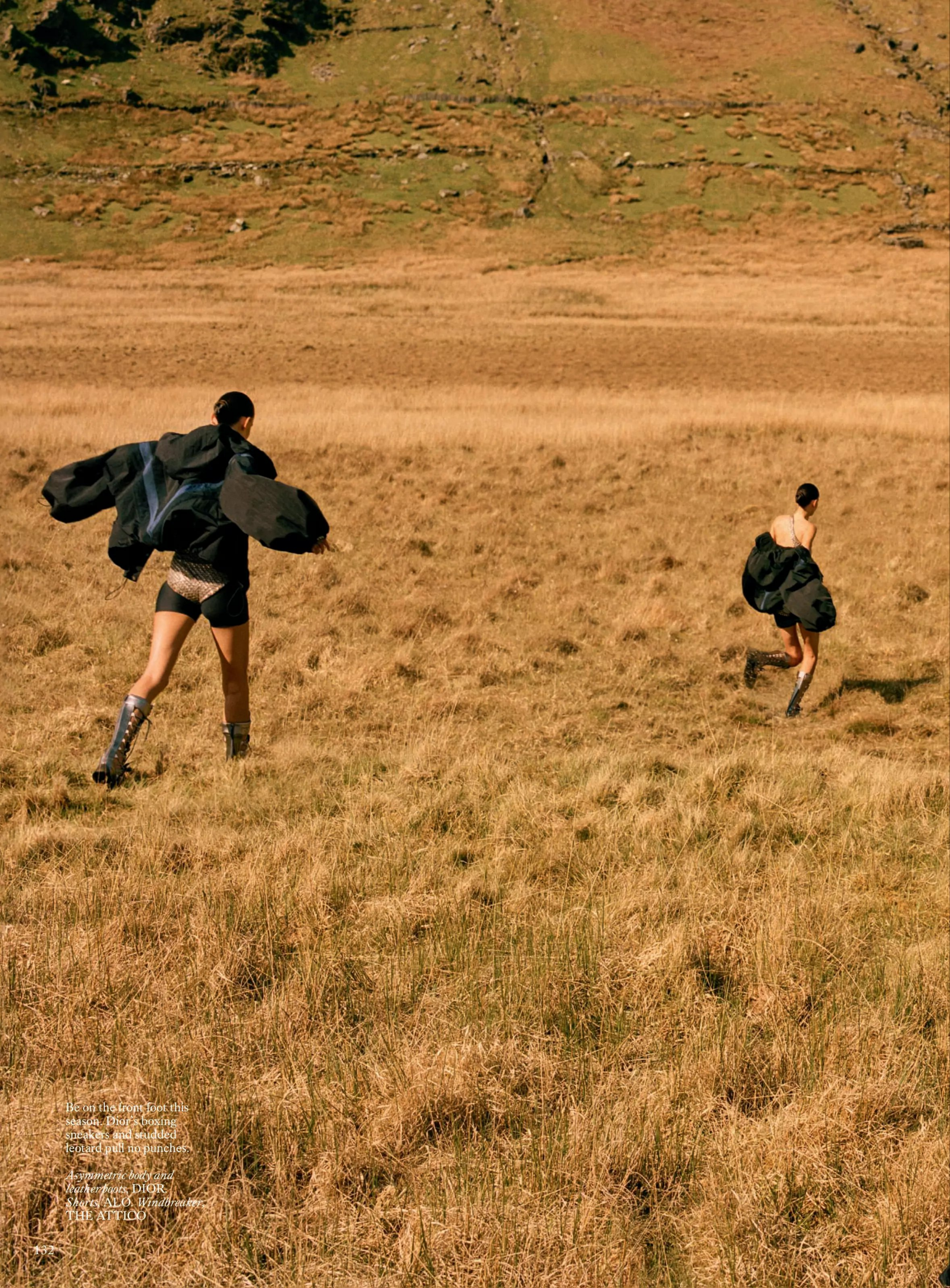
Simone Rocha raises the
barre with a gorpcore
twist on prima style.

Cagoule and net tutu skirt,
SIMONE ROCHA



Stretch your wings.
Chanel's ornithological co-ords are the bird-watcher's uniform of dreams.

Wool/cashmere jacket, alpaca/wool sweater, and alpaca/wool trousers, CHANEL. *Boots,* MOON BOOT. *Backpack,* RAINS

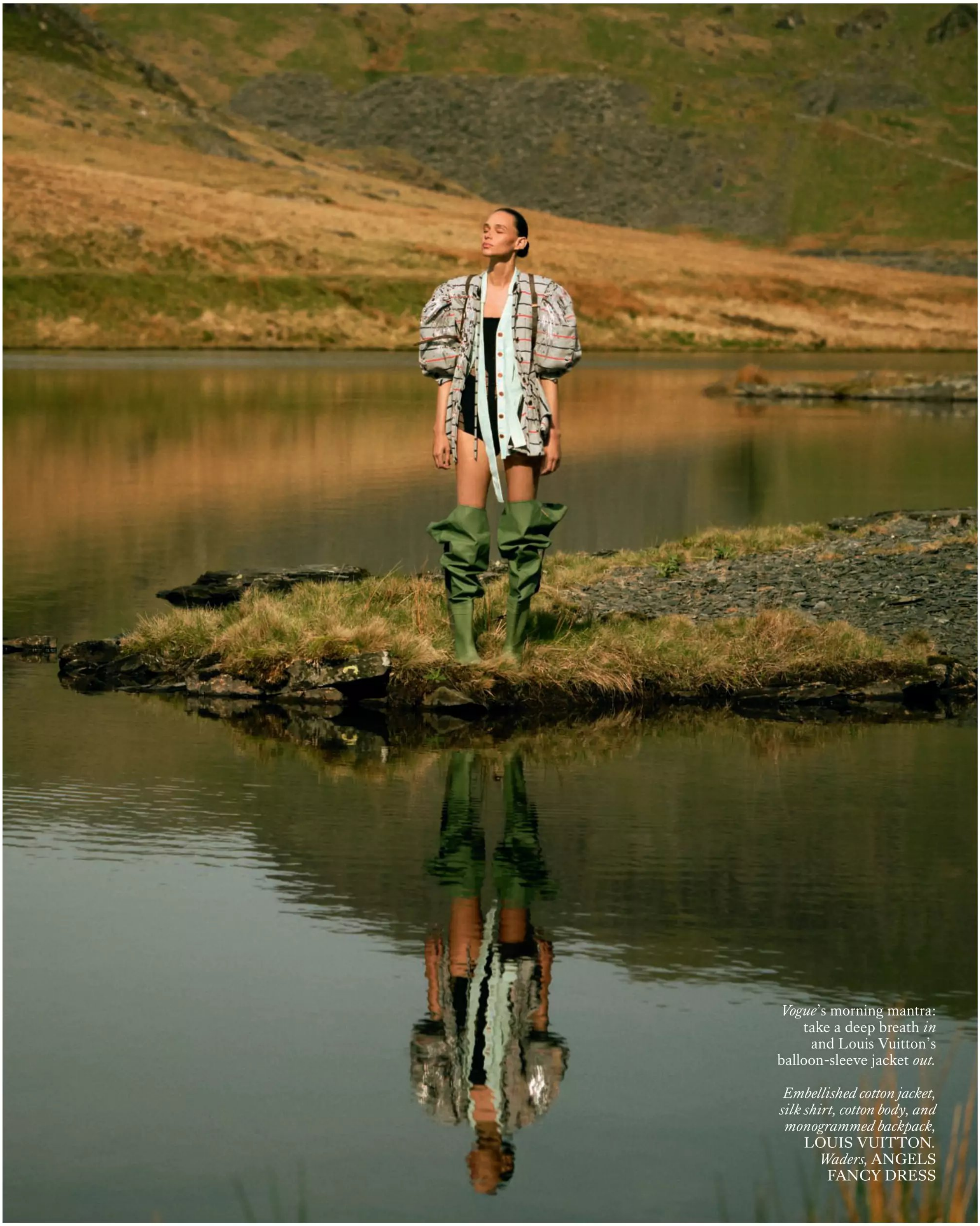


Be on the front foot this season. Dior's boxing sneakers and studded leotard pull no punches.

Asymmetric body and leather boots, DIOR. *Shorts*, ALO. *Windbreaker*, THE ATTICO

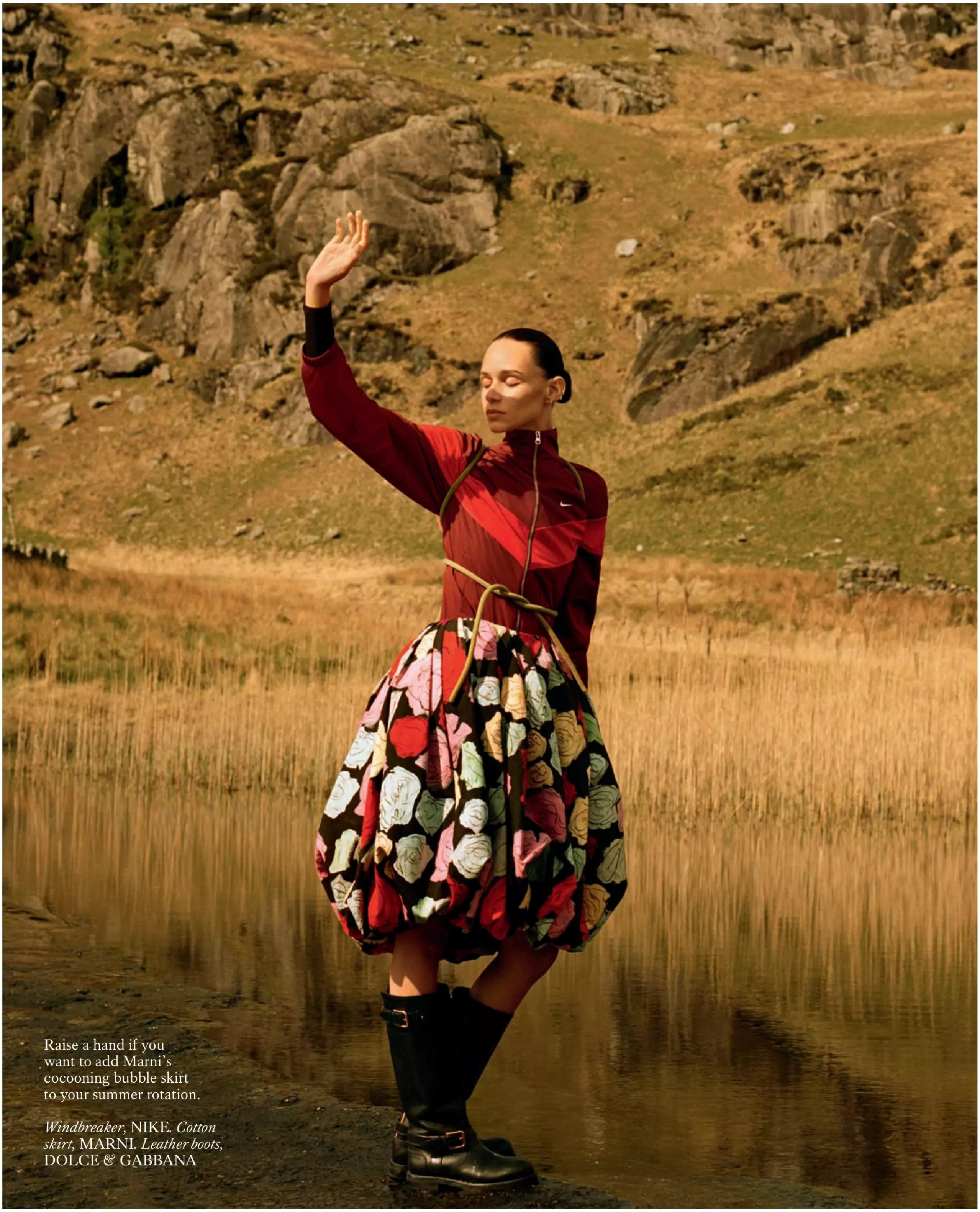
How should one
scale new heights? In
Hermès, naturally.

Nubuck jumpsuit,
HERMÈS. *Boots,* UGG
REESE COOPER



Vogue's morning mantra: take a deep breath *in* and Louis Vuitton's balloon-sleeve jacket *out.*

Embellished cotton jacket, silk shirt, cotton body, and monogrammed backpack, LOUIS VUITTON. *Waders,* ANGELS FANCY DRESS



Raise a hand if you want to add Marni's cocooning bubble skirt to your summer rotation.

Windbreaker, NIKE. *Cotton skirt,* MARNI. *Leather boots,* DOLCE & GABBANA

For an open-air, dewy glow (and trusty sun protection) apply Lancôme UV Expert Supra Screen SPF 50+.

Leather pompom headdress (worn as shawl) and printed viscose dress, BOTTEGA VENETA. *Gilet,* STONE ISLAND. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information. Hair:* VIRGINIE PINTO MOREIRA. *Make-up:* MEL ARTER. *Set design:* FÉLIX GESNOUIN. *Production:* HONOR AGENCY. *Model:* BINX WALTON. *Digital artwork:* MARIA BIELUSZKO

A cast of actors, It girls and comedians, including Leo Reich, Megan Stalter – holding Mia the Chinese crested – Will Sharpe, Adwoa Aboah and Emily Ratajkowski, bring Lena Dunham's new London-set series, *Too Much,* to life.

From left: Leo wears suit and shoes, PRADA. *T-shirt,* SUNSPEL. *Megan wears shirt, miniskirt, and boots,* SINÉAD O'DWYER. *Will wears jacket, T-shirt, and trousers,* GIORGIO ARMANI. *Necklace,* CHANEL. *Trainers,* ADIDAS. *Adwoa wears trouser suit and shoes,* ERDEM. *Emily wears jacket, body, skirt, tights, and shoes,* SAINT LAURENT BY ANTHONY VACCARELLO

Life after LOVE

When LENA DUNHAM *moved to* LONDON *in 2021 she found a husband, a chic new* CIRCLE *– and the inspiration for her first autobiographical* OPUS *since Girls. As* TOO MUCH *arrives on screens, the writer reflects on the* FINAL AFFAIR *that took her to the brink, and the* BRITS *who brought her* BACK *to herself. Photographs by* DAN JACKSON. *Styling by* TABITHA SIMMONS

WINE & SPIRITS
SERVED HERE
BREAK GLASS
PRESS HERE
Fire alarm

As Jessica in *Too Much*, Megan Stalter is more than an avatar for Dunham's lovelorn American in London. She's a whole mood. "You guys eat beans with breakfast?" said the actor and comedian on set with *Vogue*, stunned.

Faux fur coat and leather shoes, BALENCIAGA. *Taffeta top and skirt,* SINÉAD O'DWYER

You really never know when you're having your last affair. Some of us hope that every frog we kiss is our happy ending, while others stand hand in hand with their soulmate, still terrified of the vista narrowing, the buffet running out, closing time.

Even now, I can't be sure. It's not that I don't trust my husband or our life – I do, very much. It's that at some point along the way, wrecking myself again and again on the rocky shores of male attention, I stopped trusting myself.

I met Craig in a backyard in LA, in the halcyon days of the pandemic. He was sitting in a folding chair with his mask on, ankles crossed in perfectly worn Vans. He wore rolled-up jeans with a ring of keys on his belt, a torn vintage tee, a fitted hat like a fixed-gear bike messenger – the kind of look I would see on a friend's Tinder date and say, "What is it, 2009?" But when he lowered his mask – Covid restrictions were only just lifting – to take a sip of water, I felt my stomach flip-flop. It was something about the golden symmetry of his face, the position of his pillowy mouth in relation to his strong yet cherubic nose, like they were selected right from a "Brad Pitt facial features" catalogue.

Eighteen months earlier, I had prayed to have my lifelong boy craziness lifted from me. A friend had made a passing joke about the revolving door of men who I had brought to her house for dinner, how soon her children would start calling the new boyfriend by the last one's name ("Hi, Jason!" "I'm Josh.") Knowing she was right – I'd been making trouble in the field – I benched myself for a while. It's probably important to note that I was coming off a string of unrelated but tightly clustered traumas, what my therapist at the time referred to as "the 50-car pile-up". Any attempt at dating was mired in the futility of my unhealed body and mind, and its inability to discern right from wrong, a good distraction from a dangerous pastime.

At first it was liberating. I stopped keeping vigil over my body: I ate crackers in bed until I fell asleep with crumbs on my pillow, let my armpit hair grow, wore massive cotton underwear. My phone was no longer a hot brick of anxiety and my heart no longer beat to the rhythm of some random photo assistant with a man bun's oddly busy schedule.

And then I saw him. And I knew, in a matter of seconds, that I was going to throw all that hard-earned peace away to make bad choices – sober, self-aware, full-throated bad choices – with this fucking guy.

Later that evening Craig approached me in a dusky corner of the yard and said, "I noticed your tea has been steeping for about five minutes. If that's green tea, which I think it is, that's too long. It should steep for three minutes at 180 degrees."

Before I could respond, he wrested my cup from me, removing the teabag and placing it in the pocket of his jeans, where a wet mark began to expand. "Wow," I said. "Are you a big tea drinker or something?"

"No, I just like to see things done the right way."

I asked him how old he was and he told me 36 and then corrected himself: "Thirty-five," he said. "Sorry, you make me nervous."

I wondered if beautiful men are like spiders – they're just as scared of you as you are of them.

Christmas was coming. Like many people, I was separated from family by geography and the virus, but had plans to spend it with a few friends in a trailer in Malibu I was renting. (I learnt – when a child's retainer arrived addressed to Charles J Sheen – that it had quite the storied previous resident.)

Craig texted me, just a hello, a nice to meet you. With a boldness that had evaded me for some time, I wrote, "Come over on Christmas and dance with me by my pink tinsel tree."

"Do you mean it, though?" he asked. A moment later, he texted again to say, "Still recovering from something, so can we keep this a little low-key and mellow?"

"Lol," I typed. "What do you think, I'm gonna knock you up and we'll wake up married in Vegas? I'm moving to London in two weeks. Just come slow dance with me."

I thought I meant it, like he was a sex bug I could vaccinate out of me in one dose. Life of late had been in stasis. I was living in LA, not for any good reason but that I'd gotten the house in a break-up. I moved to the trailer after I realised I might never stop finding my ex's favoured brand of blue foam earplugs behind all the furniture. When I looked out at the enviable view, I felt like a drone watching myself, the sun bleaching my thoughts until they were no longer discernible, even to me.

When Craig came to the door he looked older than I remembered, sun-beaten and drowsy. He had a bottle of tequila under his arm and held it out to me.

"I don't drink," I told him, but offered him a glass. It was the last "no" I would say to him.

He'd brought me cigarettes – a "the world is ending anyway" habit I'd picked up too late in life and have since kicked – and we smoked them on the deck. Somehow we got on the topic of crying – when we did it last – and he told me he hadn't shed a tear in ages, even though something awful had happened to him recently. I was expecting a small travesty, a boy-sized

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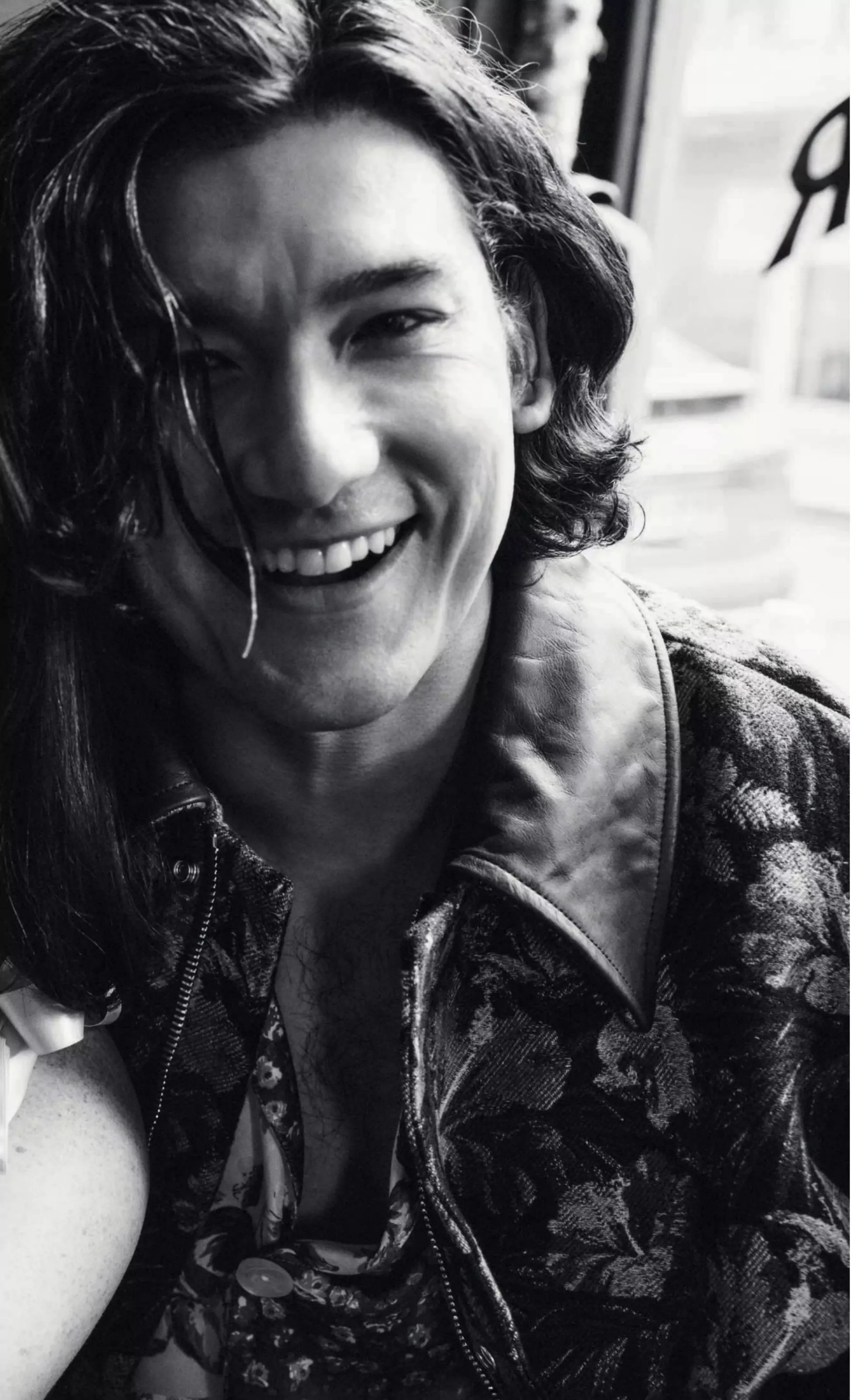
At the Wenlock Arms in Angel, Stalter was joined by Will Sharpe, who stars as her love-never-did-run-smooth paramour Felix. Has the British actor ever met a classic London Felix in real life? "It's loosely inspired by Lena and Lou's relationship, so there's a germ of that in there," he says, smiling.

Megan wears silk ribbon dress, SIMONE ROCHA. *Ring, Megan's own. Will wears jacquard jacket,* SS DALEY. *Vintage shirt,* EBAY

"I knew, in a matter of SECONDS, *that I was* GOING *to throw all that* PEACE *away with this guy," writes* LENA DUNHAM



> "I ASKED *whether we would* SEE EACH *other one more time before I* LEFT. *Twice is just* HOOKING *up. Three* TIMES *and I can call it an* AFFAIR *in my memoir*"

mistake, but instead it really was awful. Unsure of what to say, I rubbed his thick shoulder through his corduroy jacket.

I drove him to Zuma Beach in my golf cart, making a dangerous U-turn on the Pacific Coast Highway.

"Am I scaring you?" I asked. "I don't have a licence."

He was drinking tequila from a cup, legs crossed, leaning back against the torn leatherette seat. "No, but you really can't drive, can you?"

On the beach we sat on his coat, listening to a mix of '90s pop and getting closer and closer until our sentences were trailing off and I could feel his breath, which tasted like the boys I'd kissed before I'd gone further than kissing. When I finally pressed my mouth to his – already open – he seemed unsurprised, as confident as if he had been the one to start it.

The second time, Craig came over dressed nicely. The last night together had ended with an awkward tussle in my over-lit bedroom, jokes about how he'd have to return and put on a better show. It felt like in response he'd read several bestsellers about dating, so chivalrous was his return. He brought a deep-dish pizza to reheat in my oven. He gave me Japanese slippers in case my feet got cold in the UK, in a houndstooth pattern he knew I liked because of the coat I had worn on the day we met. We held hands across my dining table under the light of the pink Christmas tree.

He was the kind of sex partner who gave it exactly as much effort as he needed to in order to congratulate himself, like it was high-school sports. But he was a dazzling kisser – to continue the metaphor, Olympian, like he was mastering the form so as to become a coach once he was no longer in his prime.

Later, in the bath, I traced his wet spine to the beat of Fiona Apple's "Shadowboxer" and remembered a night more than 10 years ago, in someone else's bed – when he slept, and his vertebrae, so pale they were almost blue, felt like the centre of the city. I didn't, in that moment, think about the fact that I was romanticising a man who had thrown me around, tried to pass me off to his friends, ignored me for months on end only to beckon me back with a single "sup?" All I could summon was the feeling of the whole world narrowing to a single point and the sense that it was happening again.

Curled in a towel on the bed, I asked Craig shyly if he would like to take a trip with me. One last hurrah before I disappeared to a foreign country and an unknown future. He said he "probably would", that it sounded stupid given his desire to stay single, but also like "something we should do". Something we should do was all I heard.

A few days later, I texted Craig – who had not yet responded about potential plans – asking whether we would see each other one more time before I left. Twice is just hooking up. Three times and at least I can call it an affair in my memoir.

"I'm more than happy to," he wrote back, "but I prefer tryst to affair," sending me a screen cap of the definition: "A private romantic rendezvous between lovers."

Craig and I got to Santa Barbara and he carried our bags into a sweet little cottage with a fireplace, a tufted couch, a little dining nook and, under an arch, a crisp white canopy bed. I had made every effort to engage in a way that said "casual", referencing a few times that I "happened to have two days without work and this hotel was easy". (Neither was true.) But outside the room was a wooden pegboard, where the hotel wrote out guest's names. At that point, I made a habit of travelling under the name Rose O'Neill, not because anyone cared where I went but just because it felt good, not to… be. And so there we were: Mr and Mrs O'Neill.

"Well, Mrs O'Neill," he said. "Let's test the bed."

I could hear birds and what I thought might be cicadas, the hum of faraway traffic or was it the ocean? As he kissed me into silence, I wondered how much of the magic was my delusion and how much was his uncanny ability to ramp up intimacy – the way he made lingering eye contact that first day, the way he grabbed the back of my neck in the car up to Santa Barbara like my father does to my mother on long drives.

Later that night we got naked in the unforgiving sodium light of the hot tub where my thighs looked wobbly and wide.

I asked Craig how he was feeling about the big thing, the thing that meant he couldn't really be here with me or with anyone. As he spoke, I nodded empathically, a judgement-free zone. When we talked I had a tendency to present myself as healed, a done deal, nicely serviced – if you purchase me you won't even need a warranty!

Once, I was explaining to my dearest friend why in my darkest times I used to disappear for a while. It wasn't because I didn't want to be loved; it was because I wanted to be loved so badly that I was trying not to be found out. "If I was well-behaved, then I'd get the chance to touch you again," I said.

Sitting by the fire, we somehow got on the topic of my aforementioned boy craziness. I told him about how it had manifested early and often, and that recently I'd found my journal from 1991 in which I had drawn a picture of my crush – orange face, blue shirt, mushroom cut, surrounded by

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As Wendy – the influencer Jessica's ex leaves her for – Emily Ratajkowski plays every ditchee's worst nightmare. What's the best cure for heartbreak? "Friendship," she says. "Always just other women. Surround yourself with that at all times and you will feel no pain."

Ribbed silk top, skirt, and felt hat, MIU MIU

As Astrid, Mia – a nearly hairless Chinese crested from Cambridgeshire – all but steals *Too Much* from her famous costars. She was well prepared to play Jessica's emotional support canine: she's a registered therapy dog (in between modelling Chanel, of course).

Necklace, CHANEL. *Custom-made nightdress,* IF ONLY IF

What's the weirdest thing about the UK? "I feel like when you turn on the TV every show is about redecorating your garden," says Stalter.

Sanderson-print coat, hat, and shoes, MOSCHINO, *Socks,* PANTHERELLA

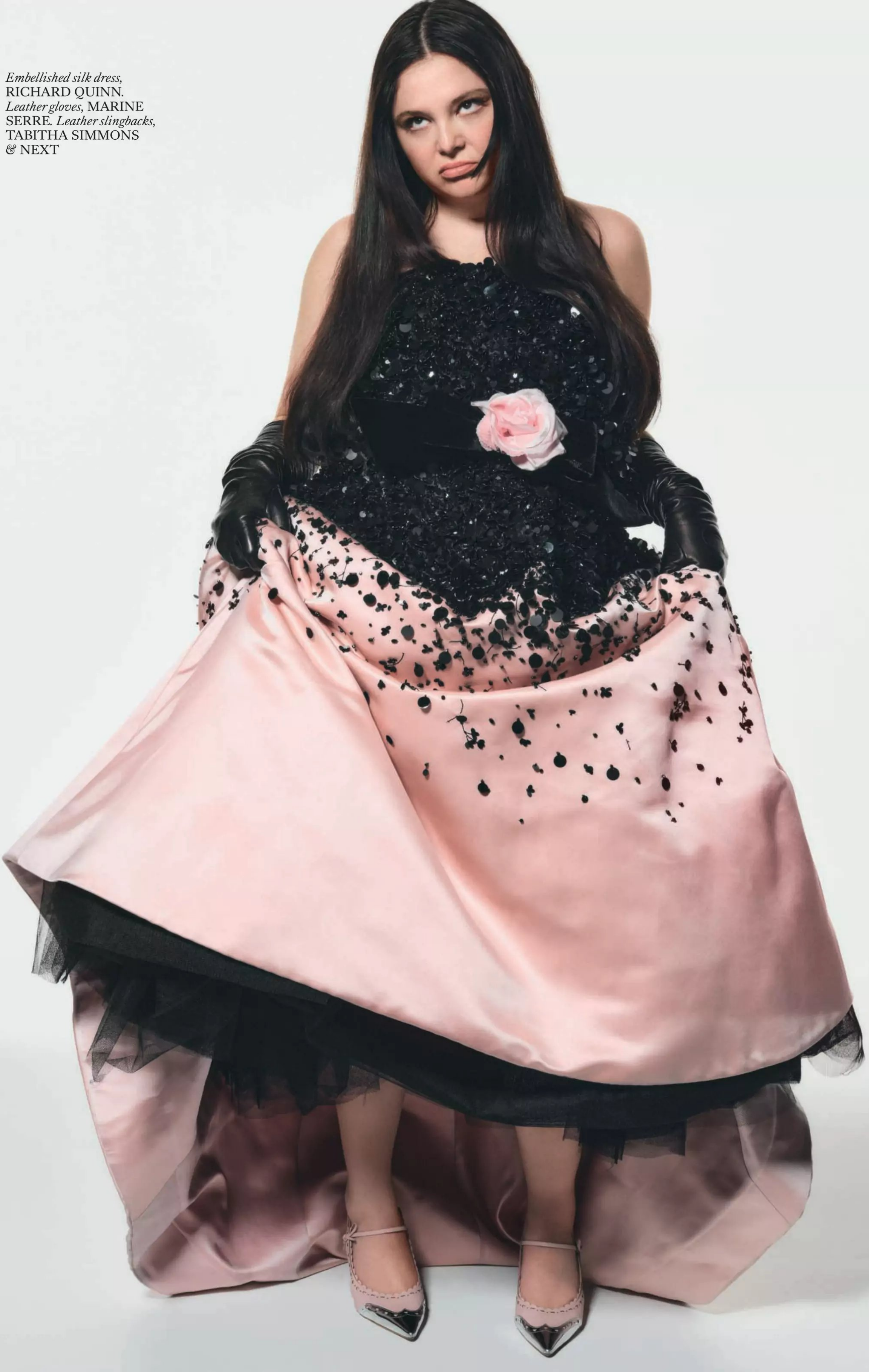
Faux fur jacket, silk shirt, and cotton trousers, EMPORIO ARMANI

As Will's not-quite-ex, Linnea, Adwoa Aboah plays the show's quintessential London girl. Where's the best place for a first date? "It's quite risky but it would be fun to be taken to karaoke. I'd be sold if someone serenaded me with a song."

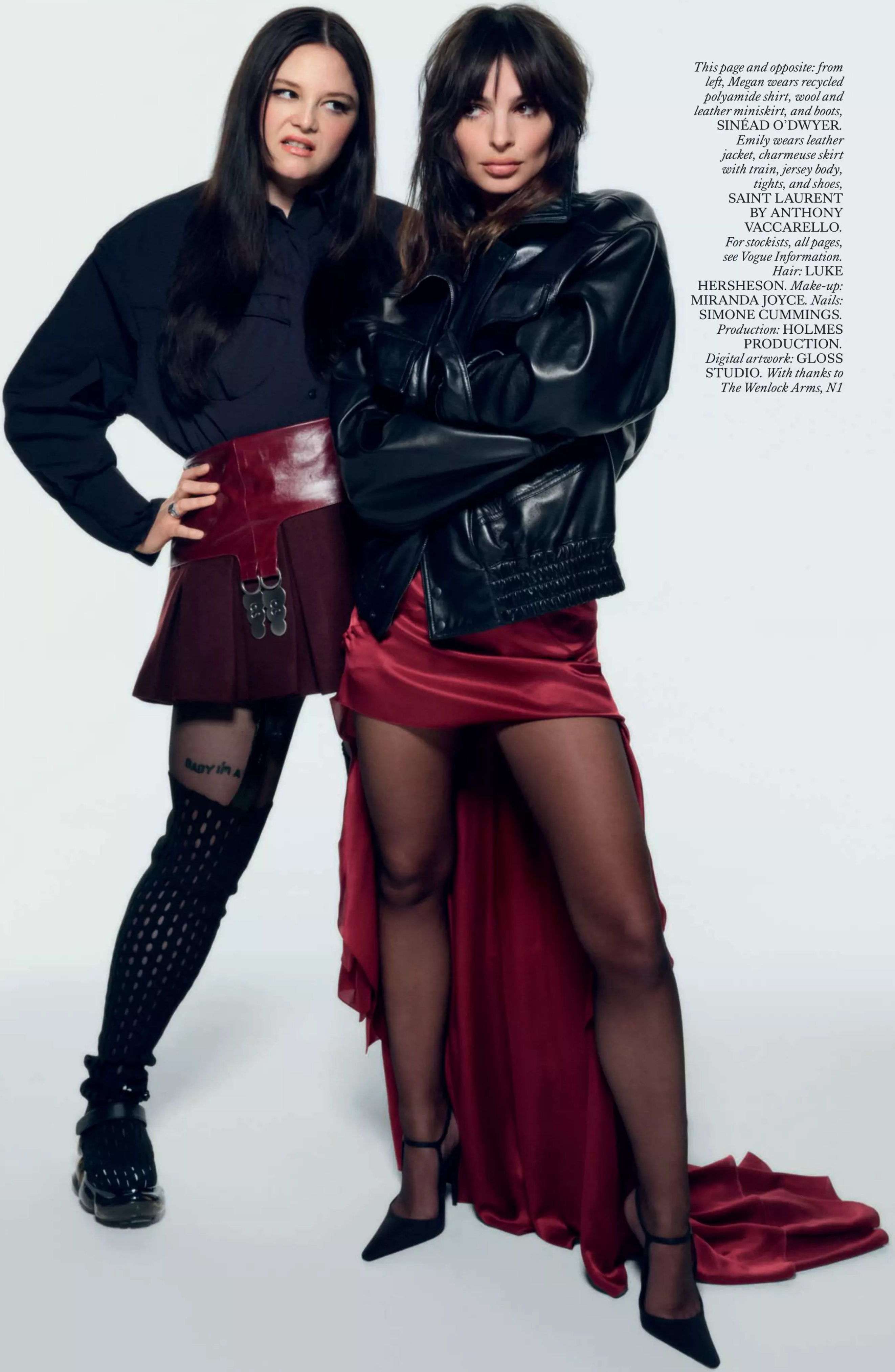
Leather coat, HERMÈS, *Earrings, Adwoa's own*

Actor and comedian Leo Reich stars as Jessica's somewhat savage young colleague, Boss Gibbons. What's the hardest thing about dating in London? "What other people are like. And then additionally to that, what I'm like – and the combination of those two unbearable things."

Cotton sweatshirt, VALENTINO. *Cotton shirt and suede belt,* PRADA. *Jeans,* SS DALEY



Embellished silk dress, RICHARD QUINN. *Leather gloves,* MARINE SERRE. *Leather slingbacks,* TABITHA SIMMONS & NEXT



This page and opposite: from left, Megan wears recycled polyamide shirt, wool and leather miniskirt, and boots, SINÉAD O'DWYER. *Emily wears leather jacket, charmeuse skirt with train, jersey body, tights, and shoes,* SAINT LAURENT BY ANTHONY VACCARELLO. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information. Hair:* LUKE HERSHESON. *Make-up:* MIRANDA JOYCE. *Nails:* SIMONE CUMMINGS. *Production:* HOLMES PRODUCTION. *Digital artwork:* GLOSS STUDIO. *With thanks to The Wenlock Arms, N1*

“In LONDON, *I was intimidated by the It girls in* NEGLIGEE *dresses until they got drunk and* ADMITTED *their affairs were just as* MESSY *as mine”*

MAESTRO & ME

JAMIE LLOYD*'s arc from tough childhood to king of the* WEST END *is as riveting as any of his sold-out productions. As his new take on* EVITA *looks set to sweep* THEATRELAND, *the director and his star,* RACHEL ZEGLER, *talk reinventing the musical for now. By* SARAH CROMPTON. *Photographs by* MATT HEALY. *Styling by* JESSICA GERARDI

"We would go out on the street and sing and dance and entertain the local people whether they liked it or not," says *Evita* director Jamie Lloyd.

Opposite: houndstooth coat, PRADA. *Wool trousers,* MARGARET HOWELL.

This page: technical-knit sweater, shorts, and faux fur scarf, SIMONE ROCHA. *Tights,* WOLFORD

"It's one of those roles for women in musical theatre that has everything you could possibly want to do as a performer," says Rachel Zegler of playing Eva Perón.

Rachel wears leather jacket and vest, DIOR. *Jamie wears wool cardigan,* BERLUTI

My dad was a truck driver, and he used to play *Evita* in the cab as he drove. It was his favourite musical. Hearing it again, I suddenly had these vivid memories of sitting in the passenger seat of his big HGV driving around industrial estates and up these bleak, grey motorways up and down the country. He knew every word, and he'd sing along."

Jamie Lloyd smiles. Now one of the most celebrated theatre directors in the world, he is about to open his own version of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's famed musical at The London Palladium. "If my dad were around, it would just blow his mind."

Playing Eva Perón? Rachel Zegler, swapping the wide-eyed innocence of Maria in Steven Spielberg's 2021 film of *West Side Story* and in Disney's recent live-action remake of *Snow White*, for the sharp-edged complexities of the Argentine first lady and a constantly contested figure.

Director and star are standing in a sun-flecked garden in southeast London, today's substitute for Las Pampas, with the Thames flowing serenely by. Rehearsals started yesterday and they talk with quiet intensity as they sit at a small table or stand heads together on the grass by the river. They make an odd couple: she's 24, petite and bouncy, in constant movement, the ribbons on the sleeves of her Dior dress – she's an ambassador for the house, for both fashion and beauty – streaming behind her in the breeze. Aged 44, he's quieter, more grounded, with muscled shoulders under his skintight T-shirt, the scrolling tattoos on his shaved head just visible beneath his trademark hat.

There's an instant complicity as he outlines his plans for the production and she peppers him with questions while her golden doodle, Lennie, (after *West Side Story* composer Leonard Bernstein) bounds around their feet. Their excitement about the project is clear.

Lloyd first spotted Zegler performing on YouTube. "She's this amazing vocalist," he says. "Hearing her singing this material, I get goosebumps." When he is casting a show, he always asks himself if he feels a connection with the actors. "At the first sing-through, when other people were at their music stands being very polite and formal, she was just ripping around the room and expressing herself fully. I just love that. The way I work relies on actors to feel free."

Zegler grins and returns the compliment. "He's a great big sweetie-pie and that's really the most important thing. There's a deep kindness, an emphasis on showing up each day with an open heart and an open mind and to have no inhibition in performance because the second you do, the whole thing loses its shine."

The affection he provokes in actors might well be Lloyd's superpower as a director. In his dazzling, pink-confetti filled production of *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane earlier this year, which starred Tom Hiddleston and Hayley Atwell as squabbling lovers Benedick and Beatrice, every person in the cast had worked with him before – and wanted to come back.

"His spaces feel very democratic," says Atwell, who has collaborated with him three times. "He likes actors. We might be an odd bunch, and not every director particularly likes us because we are fluid, slippery, mercurial things, playing like children do. He loves that. He wants it to feel like a playground."

Warmth and enthusiasm has propelled Lloyd through a career that began at the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts and has encompassed some 70 productions as a director, until now he stands at the pinnacle of his profession. He formed The Jamie Lloyd Company in 2013, committing it to an outreach programme to bring in young and disenfranchised audiences. For *Evita*, 5,000 £25 tickets are on sale for under 30s, key workers and those on benefits.

His directing record reveals the range and heft of his work: Harold Pinter's *Betrayal* in the West End and on Broadway in an intimately revealing but spare production with Hiddleston, Zawe Ashton and Charlie Cox; a new version of *Cyrano de Bergerac* starring James McAvoy; Chekhov's *The Seagull* in London with Emilia Clarke; Ibsen's *A Doll's House* in New York with Jessica Chastain; a revival of *The Effect* with Paapa Essiedu and Taylor Russell; a *Romeo and Juliet* which had fans queuing round the block of the Duke of York's Theatre to see Tom Holland; a visceral *Sunset Boulevard*, which starred Nicole Scherzinger and swept through awards season on both sides of the Atlantic.

Most recently there have been two Shakespeares at Drury Lane – a bleak version of *The Tempest* starring Sigourney Weaver, a rare critical misfire ("Sometimes a production can be blazing away in rehearsal then around the press performances there's extra pressure and things shift a bit and it wasn't at its very best," he concedes) and the rapturous *Much Ado*. After *Evita*, Lloyd will direct Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* on Broadway, reuniting Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter after *Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure*. The friends of 40 years came up with the idea and asked Lloyd if he would be interested. "I had wanted to do that play for ages," says Lloyd, "and I just loved the idea that they had been friends for so long. It's about companionship as you are staring into the void, isn't it?"

It's an astonishing run of productions. All the more so given Lloyd's background growing up in 1980s Dorset. "It always sounds peculiar when I speak it out loud," he says, with a laugh. After his parents separated when he was five, his first stepfather was "awful". But he was also a clown, who doubled as a children's entertainer, called Uncle Funny. "He used to go off and entertain kids with these rabbits he'd keep in a rabbit hutch in the living room. It sounds like a cliché, but it really was not a fun experience living with him. It was appalling."

At one point, the family lived above a fancy dress shop, and Lloyd would sneak downstairs and dress up as various characters. "Sometimes I'd stand in the shop window pretending to be a mannequin and move and wave when I saw a passerby," he says.

He and his cousins were obsessed with Michael Jackson and would recreate the "Thriller" video. "We'd carve gravestones out of polystyrene and spend ages painting them. We called ourselves >

LLOYD'S *was not a traditional theatrical* UPBRINGING. *"My starting point was* PYTHONS *in the paddling* POOL *because we had a lodger who was a* SNAKE *charmer"*

the Rainbow Kids and would go out on the street and sing and dance and entertain the local people whether they liked it or not."

Decisively, one day his father – who played in a Cliff Richard tribute band – took him to Cardiff by coach to see Jackson's *Bad* tour. "We were right at the back and at the side, but I have this vivid memory of seeing him, tiny because we were so far away, and the big screens, and the thrill of him when he would stop mid-song and just hold, waiting for the response before going back into the song. It wasn't theatre but it was entertainment, one of the moments when it all kind of makes sense."

Some of Lloyd's recent productions – including the dramatic monochrome *Sunset Boulevard* and *Romeo and Juliet* – use cameras and screens; all use microphones. It is part of their appeal. Scherzinger, whom Lloyd courted for four years to get her to appear as Norma Desmond, notes: "I love how he is minimal. There are no distractions. It's just getting to the real heart, soul and meat of the story and the truth of being in the moment. He makes it real and raw."

Lloyd's separation from a traditional theatrical upbringing is often clear in his work. "So many of my contemporaries saw iconic Shakespearean performances. That was their starting point," he says, wryly. "Whereas mine was paddling with pythons in the paddling pool because we had a lodger who was a snake charmer."

He laughs again. In person he is quiet, but engaging and open with a directness that makes him enormously appealing. When he got his directorial breaks – assisting Trevor Nunn on *Anything Goes* and Michael Grandage on *Guys and Dolls*; directing *The Caretaker* at the Sheffield Crucible at the request of Samuel West – he was conscious that he came from a different place from most of his peers. "I always used to wear a blazer, dress smarter, speak a bit posher and try to fit in. There was a sense of imposter syndrome."

Pictures of him at the time show an earnest man in glasses, who looks a little like Harry Potter. "I do, I do!" he says, with an enormous guffaw. Nowadays, he cuts a different figure. When we meet at the Palladium for our interview, he is wearing a grey Calvin Klein denim jacket, Carhartt shorts and Nike Sequoias. Only his legs are free from tattoos; elaborate patterns cover his head, neck, arms and fingers. "It's like a hobby," he says. "I'm really obsessed with the history of tattooing, and the fact that it's in so many cultures around the world. There's a kind of community around it that means you often have conversations with people about their tattoos and who's tattooed you. I just love it."

He doesn't see himself as a superstar director now – "I don't feel that" – but he has changed. "The hardest thing we ever do as an artist and as a human being is learning that what anyone thinks of you is none of your business," he says. "That need for approval, that need to be liked or thought of as important or cool is so deep within us. I heard the other day that people's biggest regret when they are dying is that they wish they'd lived life on their own terms instead of doing what other people expected. What a terrible regret to have!"

He applies this to his life, being entirely upfront on social media about being in love with Brandon LaVar, an American dancer and actor who appeared in the Broadway production of *Sunset Boulevard*. Until a few years ago, he was in a longstanding relationship with the actor Suzie Toase, and the pair have three sons. "I've never said I was a straight person," Lloyd says. "When I met Suzie, who is my best friend to this day, she knew me as an out queer person. We fell in love, and we've had these three amazing kids. People just assumed I was straight because I've been in a monogamous relationship with a woman but obviously all my friends know that's not the case."

Jamie and Suzie separated before the pandemic. "I genuinely didn't think I would be with anyone else, to be honest, and I certainly wasn't interested in having a relationship with someone at work, but there was an amazing moment in rehearsals when Brandon gave me a little fist bump and we made eye contact and my heart skipped a beat. We just fell in love, and it was beautiful. I feel incredibly fortunate."

He smiles. His three boys – aged 18, 12 and eight – love Brandon too, he says. "Everyone's been open and it's all very joyous. Suzie and I coparent these amazing kids and we all spend so much time together like this amazing extended family." The day we meet he is off to stay with relatives in north London, to celebrate a birthday; he spends as much time with his sons as he can. Lloyd himself is still based in Hastings, and spends time with LaVar in New York. "But I'm sort of nomadic. I don't have a lot of stuff, and I love living out of a couple of suitcases."

This personal happiness provides the perfect backdrop to his excitement about returning to *Evita*, which charts the life of Eva Perón, who rose from poverty to become the adored and abhorred wife of Argentina's President Perón. First released (like *Jesus Christ Superstar*) as a concept album in 1976, the debut British production two years later, directed by Hal Prince, was a magnificent spectacle; it originally starred Elaine Paige, with David Essex as Che Guevara, the revolutionary leader who acts as a commentator on Perón's life.

The story begins with Eva's death in 1952, at 33, before heading back in time to chart her knotty biography. Lloyd debuted his version at the Open Air Theatre at Regent's Park in 2019, staging it like a rock opera against a bank of bleachers. The Palladium production is an evolution of that idea. "It's completely different to Prince's production, which really can't be bettered," says Lloyd. "We're trying to see things from a different point of view." In *Sunset Boulevard*, his previous Lloyd Webber rethink, at each > 199

Jamie wears wool/cashmere cardigan and wool/cashmere polo shirt, GUCCI. *Wool trousers,* FERRAGAMO. *Rachel wears wool jacket and miniskirt,* FERRAGAMO. *Wool cardigan,* MAISON MARGIELA. *Vintage T-shirt,* JERKS. *For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information.* *Hair:* STELIOS CHONDROS. *Make-up:* PHOEBE BROWN. *Nails:* CHARLY AVENELL. *Set design:* JOSH STOVELL. *Production:* CHLOÉ MEDLEY. *Digital artwork:* BAYEUX

THE SIGHTS

Bridging Left Bank LANGUOR *and oh-so-right proportions, the* PRE-FALL *'25 mood finds a* PERFECT *backdrop in* PARIS*.*

Photographs by BRUNO STAUB*.*

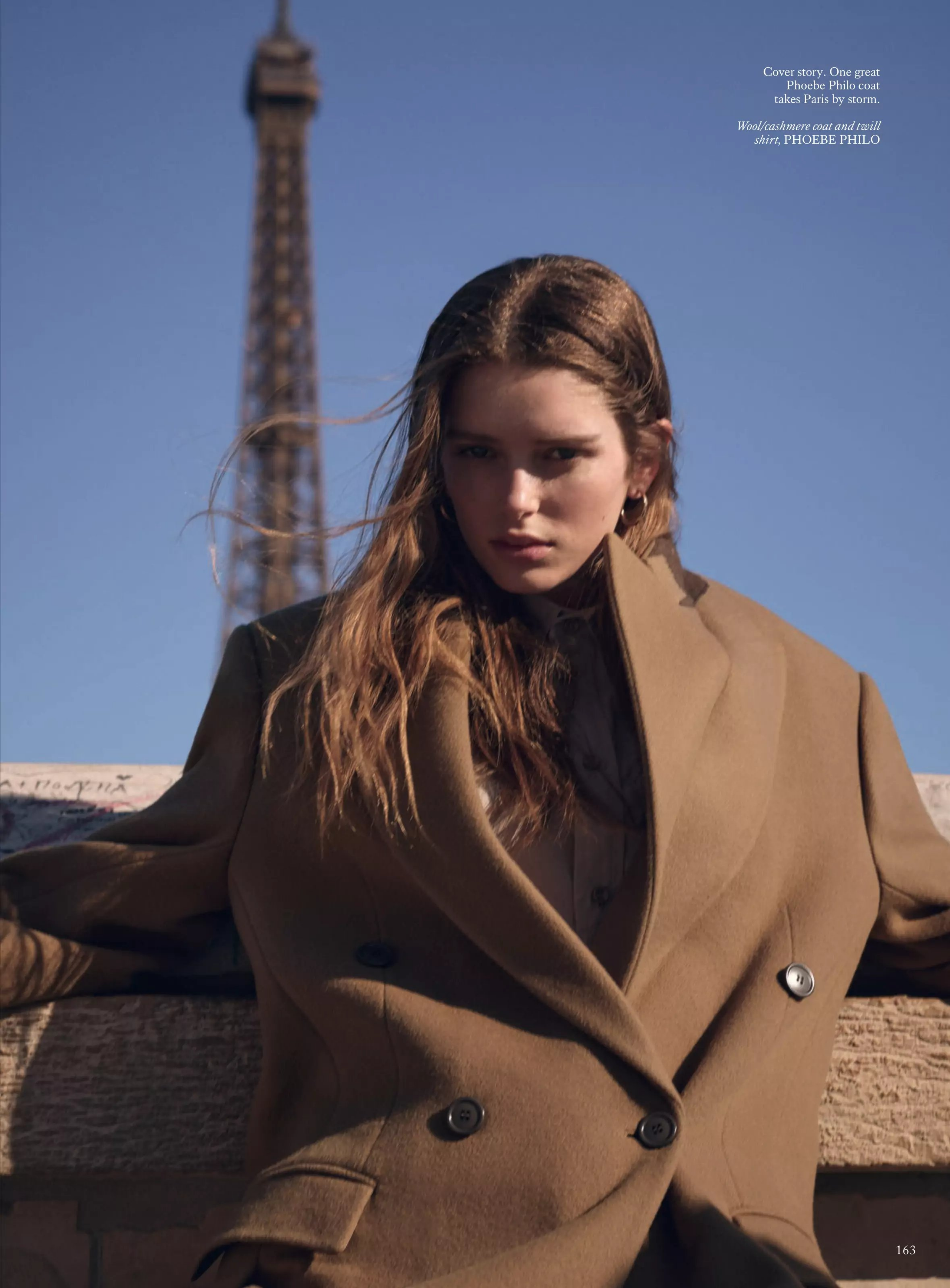
Styling by KATE PHELAN

Enhanced vision. Don't underestimate the power of a strong pair of shades.

Sunglasses, EMMANUELLE KHANH. *Gold hoop earrings (throughout),* 886 BY THE ROYAL MINT

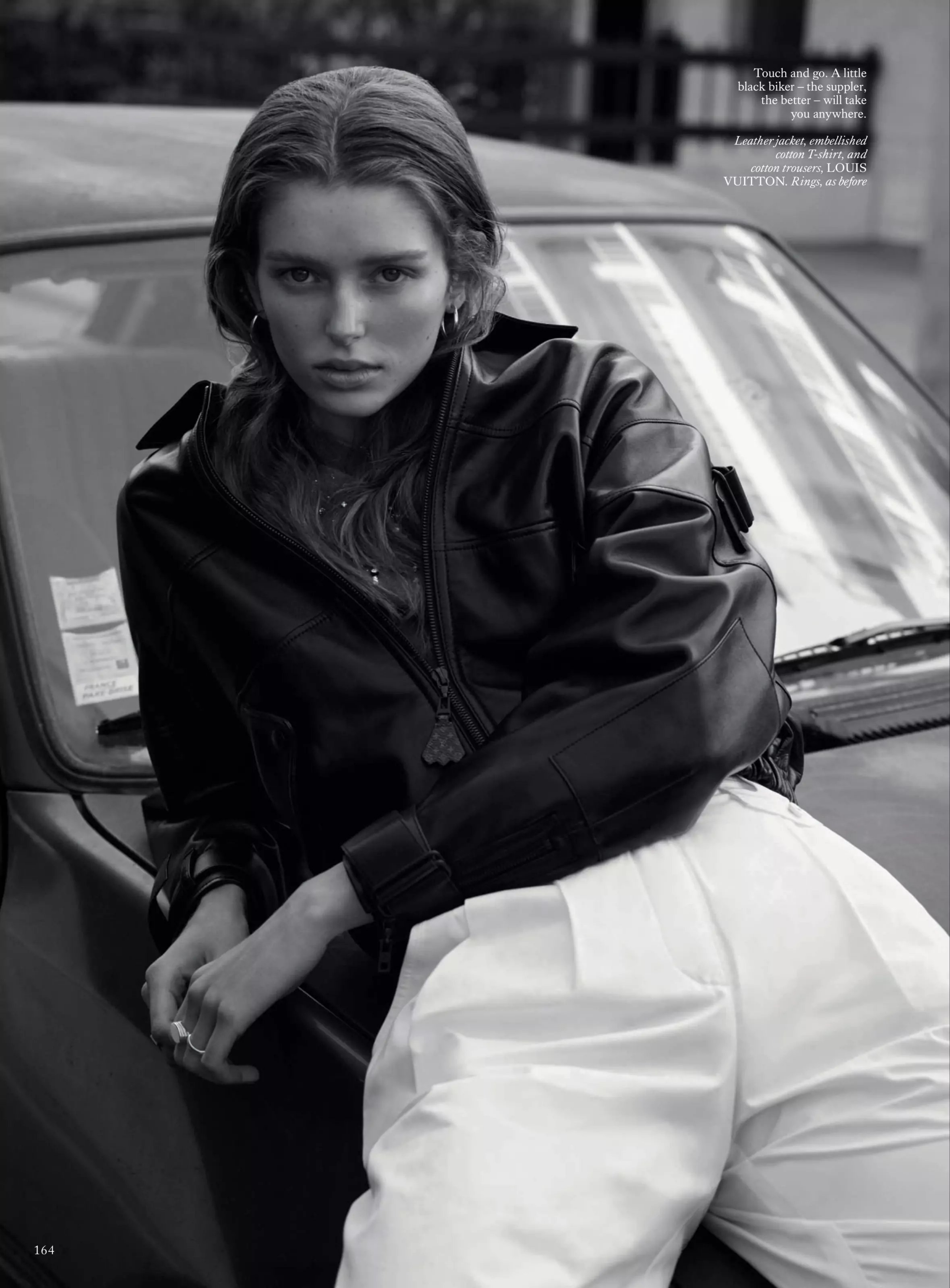
Chanel's iridescent tweed trousers ensure the City of Light remains undimmed.

T-shirt, stylist's own. Tweed trousers and patent leather bag with chain strap, CHANEL. *Cashmere sweater,* KHAITE. *Silver locket, silver bangle, and silver ring (on model's right hand),* 886 BY THE ROYAL MINT. *Signet rings (on model's left hand),* REBUS



Cover story. One great
Phoebe Philo coat
takes Paris by storm.

Wool/cashmere coat and twill shirt, PHOEBE PHILO



Touch and go. A little black biker – the suppler, the better – will take you anywhere.

Leather jacket, embellished cotton T-shirt, and cotton trousers, LOUIS VUITTON. *Rings, as before*

Fair-weather leather. Dior takes steps to soften up a rock'n'roll staple.

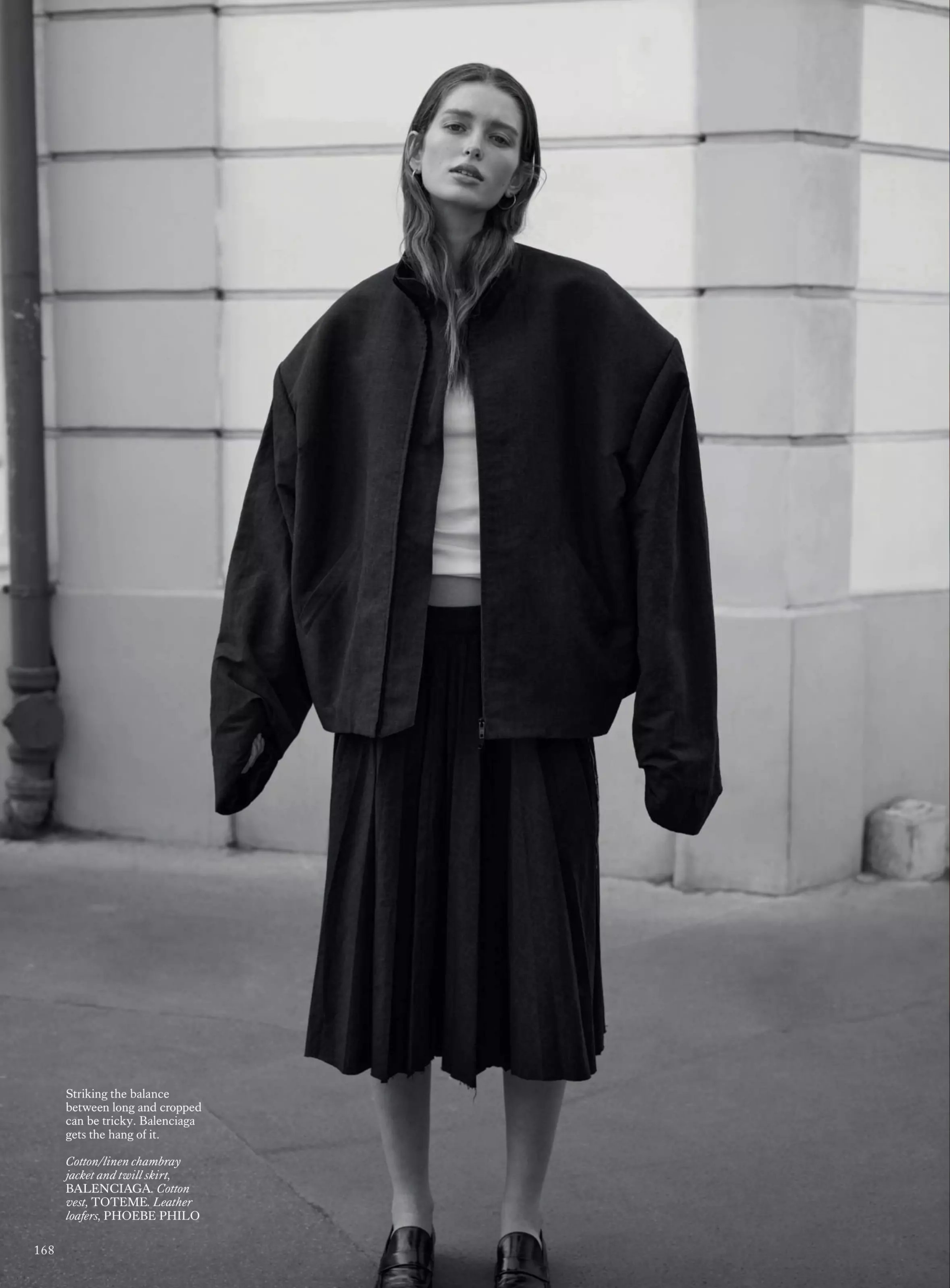
Off-the-shoulder top and leather trousers, DIOR. *Suede boots,* PRADA. *Watch,* ROLEX. *Jewellery, as before*

Get ahead of the crowds in Gucci's anything-but-uniform jeans and jacket.

Caban jacket, poplin shirt, and jeans, GUCCI. *Cotton vest,* SUNSPEL. *Jewellery, as before*

A classic, cosseting knit makes for a genteel look du jour.

Cashmere rollneck and gaberdine trousers, RALPH LAUREN COLLECTION.
Jewellery and watch, as before



Striking the balance between long and cropped can be tricky. Balenciaga gets the hang of it.

Cotton/linen chambray jacket and twill skirt, BALENCIAGA. *Cotton vest,* TOTEME. *Leather loafers,* PHOEBE PHILO

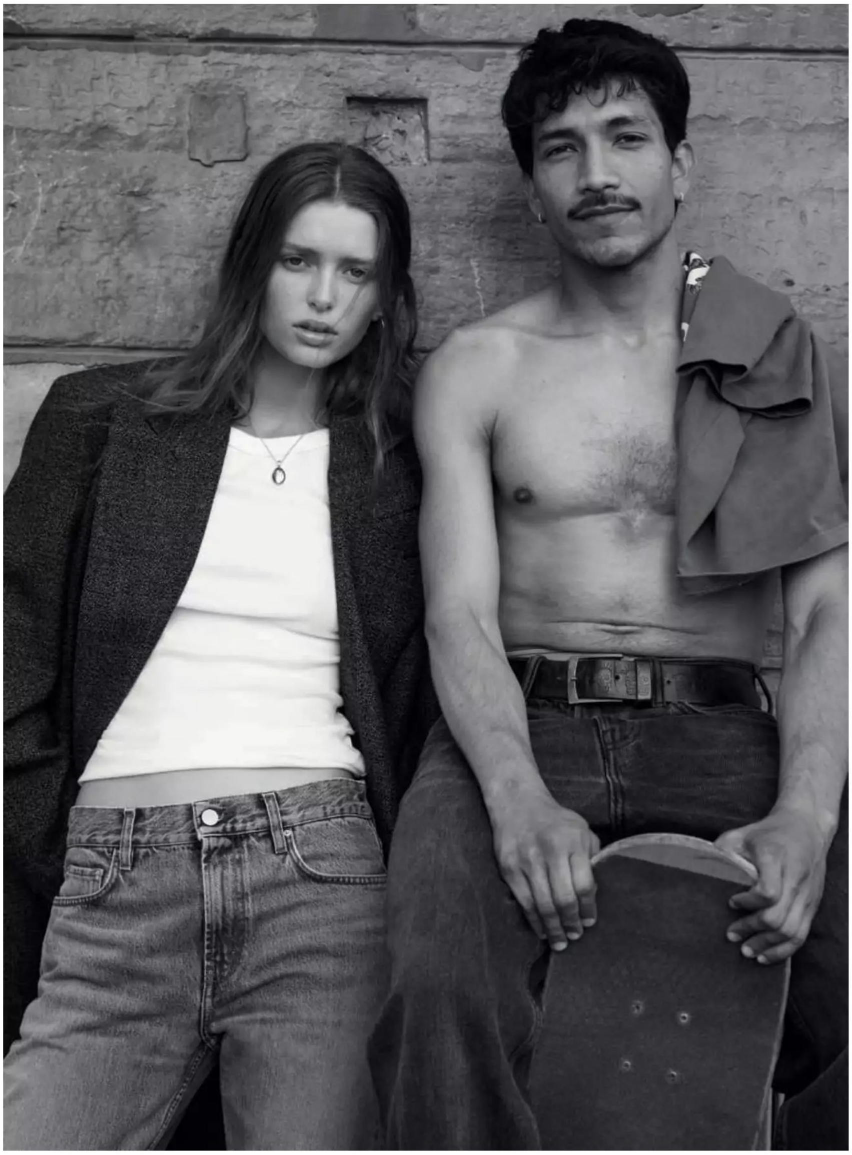
Vroom with a view. Add a pop of Prada's traffic-stopping rouge to a simple tee – you're good to go.

Cashmere top and corduroy jeans, PRADA. *Watch and jewellery, as before*

A monumental moment for double denim, courtesy of Sportmax.

Jacket and jeans, SPORTMAX. *Silver and enamel signet ring, silver signet ring, and silver ring (on thumb),* 886 BY THE ROYAL MINT. *Watch, as before. Belt, stylist's own*

ÉCOUTE BY HENRI DE MILLER. ADAGP, PARIS, 2025



Sweep the board. A smart coat adds polish to freewheeling casuals.

Wool coat, EMPORIO ARMANI. *Organic cotton vest and jeans,* TOTEME. *Jewellery, as before. For stockists, all pages, see Vogue Information.* *Hair:* RAMONA ESCHBACH. *Make-up:* CHRISTINE CORBEL. *Nails:* ALEX FELLER. *Production:* TOWN PRODUCTIONS. *Models:* ALEXIS GARZÓN, STELLA HANAN. *With thanks to La Cagnotte de Belleville, Paris*

Dua would be the first to admit that her personal taste in fiction slants towards vicarious pain. ("We love a sad book," her sister, Rina, told me about them both.) Hanya Yanagihara's *A Little Life*, Ocean Vuong's *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, Max Porter's *Grief is the Thing with Feathers*: these are novels whose characters have suffered abuse, violence, loss. In interviewing their authors Dua has shown the natural compassion she extended, on her podcast, to the Yazidi Nobel Peace Prize winner Nadia Murad.

I wonder where this instinct comes from, and ask Dua about her greatest heartbreak. "I don't think I've ever truly been heartbroken," she says after some thought. "I think change can be painful. But I seem to pick myself up pretty quickly. I think maybe the crux of it is that everything that's happened in my life never felt like a loss, but a lesson."

Much of Dua's understanding of loss – as well as her ongoing support for refugees – can be traced to the circumstances of her birth. Her parents, Anesa and Dukagjin, came to London in 1992 as Kosovar Albanian refugees. By then they had already been displaced a number of times within the Balkans by the all-encompassing repression of Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president later charged with war crimes. Dua was born three years after their arrival.

"We went through many challenges in life," Anesa tells me, "and had been through many difficult situations." The children knew this, and they learnt, as Anesa puts it, that whatever they were up against, "We as a family can resolve it." To this day, Dua's family is central to her life and work. Dua's sister, Rina, was born five years after her, and her brother, Gjin, in 2005.

At primary school in northwest London Dua met Mia, who remains one of her closest friends. "Others think fame is a huge shift," Mia observes, "but to those who know her it's a natural progression. We were always choreographing some sort of dance routine in the playground," she remembers. "Then we'd pitch it to the headmistress as a weekly assembly performance."(Britney Spears and Pink were firm favourites.) At weekend classes at the Sylvia Young Theatre School, a teacher heard Dua's husky voice and put her in a group with 15-year-olds. She was nine.

When Kosovo declared independence in 2008, the Lipas returned to Pristina. If Dua wasn't already bilingual she quickly became so. At school she read Ismail Kadare in Albanian (his classic book *The Castle* remains a milestone for her) and they spent summers in Montenegro. "We didn't really use screens," Rina remembers. But, "There was always music on in the house. We played cards till late at night, read our books. Obviously Dua was singing all the time." Dukagjin, meanwhile, was in a rock band.

At 15, Dua made a much marvelled-at decision: to return to London on her own and pursue a career in music.

"When I look back on it, I'm like: 'Bloody hell, 15 really is so little,'" Dua reflects now. "But at the time I felt like I had such a clear idea of where I was going."

"I think that's the hardest thing I've had to do in my life," Anesa remembers, of letting Dua go, "but she was so determined and full of dreams. From an early age she knew what she wanted. She was very mature, and we believed in her."

Dua shared a flat in London with the daughter of a family friend from Albania who was doing a master's. On her first day at Parliament Hill School, two girls in her year – Sarah and Ella – heard there was a new starter and eventually found someone who looked younger than her years. She was sitting alone on a stage. "That must be the new girl," they thought. Soon Sarah was spreading the word about Dua's gifts. "Guys," she said to their fellow drama students, "you have to listen to her sing, she's amazing."

Another girl joined their group: Rosie. When she went home she told her friends that Dua was going to be the next Beyoncé. "They were like: 'What are you talking about, she's only got one song on YouTube!'" Rosie recalls. "But it's the way she makes you feel. The way she puts her energy into everything. She spends every single day making small decisions in the right direction."

The group of friends went out all the time. Dua was always the one to host pre-drinks. She wore Jeffrey Campbell shoes with studs and extra high heels. "Do you ever wonder how Dua can perform a whole show in high heels?" Sarah asks. "I just remember: we were maybe 15, 16, and she would literally be stomping around Soho in the highest, highest high heels."

"There's a wild side to me, but I'm also very sensible," Dua suggests. "I think I was quite aware of the fact that my parents had allowed me to be away from them. They put so much trust into me I was like: 'I'm not going to fuck that up.'" Her background had a handy side-effect: "When I was young, trying to get into clubs was kind of easy because every bouncer was Albanian," Dua remembers. "All I needed to do was speak Albanian to the bouncer."

There was a slight hiccup. "Basically I started going out so much that I failed my A levels," Dua confesses. "I've never told anyone." She asked to redo the year at Parliament Hill and wasn't allowed back. Threatened with a return to Kosovo, she found a workaround: a course in advertising and marketing that would equal two years of A levels. As her mother tells me poetically: "There are no obstacles. Only stepping stones."

But it hardly mattered: the apprenticeships that served Dua best were the nights out and the friendships forged. "My whole goal, with my show, is: 'I want to start people dancing and I want them to leave for home dancing,'" Dua explains. "And I guess that is to do with my love of going out and bringing people together in that time."

At 18 she was working in clubs and posting covers online when she was cast in an ad for *The X Factor*. She played a fresh-faced star-to-be who sings along to "Lost in Music" on her headphones while pinning laundry on a line. In the advert, everyone within hearing distance flocks to listen. In life, a similar thing happened. The allure of Dua's voice became undeniable, and the rest, with a few twists and turns, is pop history.

On the short drive to the stadium in Madrid, the tinted windows are up for privacy, the air conditioning off to protect Dua's vocal cords. She doesn't mind – she says she's prepared to "roast". When we get there she'll go into vocal exercises, sound check, hair and make-up, dance warm-ups: everything timed to the minute.

After her last tour in 2022, for *Future Nostalgia*, when she listened back to the album she preferred the live versions of the songs. This time she's planned them that way: the songs on *Radical Optimism* were "written for live", and she hopes they show more of her range as a musician, not just as a pop star. On this tour, she's added a new cover version each night for the country she's in. She likes a little added risk: feet dangling off the edge, as she puts it – and she'll get that in spades when she plays Wembley this summer.

Dua's daily schedule is "full, full, full, full, full". She's up at 6.30am and in bed by midnight and in between she does yoga, reformer Pilates, weight training, dance rehearsals. She looks after her body, she says, "like an athlete", and thinks of her voice as a muscle. She has a singing coach as well as a speech therapist, to train her not to run her voice ragged by speaking in a raspy tone ("I love a chat"). When not on tour she's in the studio with a producer and a fellow songwriter. She's learning Spanish with a tutor three times a week, she reads (her friends get all their book recommendations from Dua) and when she is on tour she builds in time to explore cities and new restaurants. She loves to cook – even when just off a plane she makes pesto from scratch, not from a jar – and she eats healthily ("I never try and restrict

"I feel the MOST *confident I've* EVER *felt," says Lipa." I feel very* EMPOWERED *and* STRONG *in my body"*

myself from anything"). She looks after her skin, diligently washing her face three times after taking off her make-up, and once a year she sees a facialist in New York. All this, of course, while embarking on several high-profile collaborations in the worlds of fashion and beauty. In the past she has worked on a collection of clothes for Versace, been a brand ambassador for Tiffany & Co, and is a face of YSL Beauty. Notably this year she is front and centre for Chanel, both at the house's shows and in launching the Chanel 25 handbag this past spring.

Dua's appetite for life can't be contained within the span of an ordinary human day – she needs every minute she can get just to meet the demands of her own curiosity. Her friend Mia laughs about this: "Maybe – a theory – she can stop time?"

"She's been organised her entire life," Anesa reflects. "She's ahead of everything. The rest of us have to keep up."

So what do Dua's 30s hold for the Radical empire? "I think I'd love to expand Service95 and the book club," she says. "I'd love to publish authors. I would love to help produce them into film and TV." She recently executive produced a documentary about the music scene in Camden for Disney+, and would like to do more. She's keen to see the music festival she set up in Kosovo grow. And at some point she wants to look after other musicians, "maybe have my own record label, maybe represent other artists". Overall, she's thinking: "How can I be of service, literally, to other artists, whether that be in film, TV, books, music?" You get the impression she doesn't so much want to conquer the world as invite it to join her.

"Can you do all that?" I ask. She throws me an "are you kidding – I got this" look. "Yeah," she says. "Nothing's impossible. You've just got to get up and do it."

Twenty-two songs and five costume changes into her show, Dua has sung from a suspended platform, danced in the middle of a ring of fire, sprinkled autographs and taken selfies with tearful fans. She's worn Valentino and Balenciaga. By the time the deep, familiar beat of her hit single "Houdini" comes on, the crowd has mutated into a single ecstatic organism.

"This is our last song!" Dua cries out. "So this is our last chance to *dance!* Are you *ready?*" The crowd goes wild. I think back to her telling me: "I feel so strong and I feel sexy and I feel kind of invincible when I'm on stage."

With one last round of extraterrestrial energy, she launches into the precise and dauntless motions of the dance, gold chains shaking on her black Chanel bodysuit, lifted knee setting hips and shoulders rocking. This is music as physics – she has transformed the energy, changed the air, telegraphed the rhythms of the past two hours direct to the seat of our souls.

Backstage, Team Dua gathers, jaws slack with awe. Though they've seen her shows dozens of times before, they all agree that tonight she has transcended what you'd expect of mortals. In her dressing room, amid a joyful cluster of family and friends, Dua has shrunk in record time to a relatable scale. She's changed back into her jeans, red Courrèges tank top and Puma Speedcats. It seems impossible that this and the giant I've just seen onstage are one and the same person.

"Are you human?" I find myself asking her. She laughs, and gives me a hug. "Did you have a good time?" she asks.

Perhaps that's as much as you can ask of life. If so, Dua's gift is to make it possible: for her friends, for her followers and for throngs of thousands, night after night. Anyone who thought radical optimism was just an album title hasn't lived in Dua Lipa's world.

dozens of messy pink hearts – and above it are scrawled the words, "This is my frand Colin he is my favrt boy". A few years later, I had violently crossed these words – and his face – out with a ballpoint pen, humiliated by my former self and her earnest sappiness, but they are still legible.

"Who was your first crush?" I asked.

He considered. "I can't really remember. I probably just looked at a group of pretty girls and was like, 'Any one of them is fine.'"

On the drive back to Los Angeles I let my hand hang out the window, my fingers catching the breeze, Craig's thumb gripped my thigh, and I couldn't believe how bright it all looked, how I felt – for once – like a part of the world.

He wanted to stop at a coffee shop in Ventura, a city I barely knew existed, and we parked on a pristine corner in front of an evangelical church and walked by a block of tidy beach houses to a window where he made a big show of buying me a matcha. Heading back to the car, hands linked loosely, the ocean in front of us and this anonymously perfect town at our backs, I wondered how I had lived in California on and off for so many years without appreciating how sparkly, how stunning it really was. I was full of nameless ideals and a sense of youthful vibrance. He lit an American Spirit and motioned around us.

"Can you believe all this beautiful suburban bullshit?"

I felt my phone buzz – we'd been out of service at the hotel – and dozens of texts came through:

"Holy shit."

"This country."

"What the fuck?"

It was 7 January. The day before, while we'd been curled in our Mr and Mrs O'Neill fantasy, there'd been an insurrection at the US Capitol. Already, there were memes I didn't understand, pictures of men in Viking horns.

The day I left for London I woke up early to prepare Craig's presents. I decided which of my prized gold chains would fit around his neck, carefully measuring them against each other. Then I hand-wrote a letter describing exactly what the last two weeks – it had been two weeks to the day since Christmas – had meant to me.

I was proud of the letter. I felt, at the time, that it was a beautiful letter, the kind of letter a person would feel lucky to receive. A resistant man would become a loving one. A scared man would become a bold one. A reticent man would think, "This is one of the all-time great notes. This is one of the all-time great women."

Reading it now, it has the sappy timbre of that movie where Mandy Moore sings a gorgeous song to her high-school class, kisses the popular boy and then promptly dies, just as things are getting good for her. This has been, I was saying, *a walk to remember*.

Blinding sun shone through the window of his bedroom and onto my face and I felt like a flower opening at hyperspeed in one of those middle-grade science videos.

"You look very pretty today," he said, smiling. "And happy." I was in his lap, in a floral dress.

He set a timer for 30 minutes so I wouldn't miss my flight. We stayed like that for a long time, my legs wrapped around his waist, my dress half up, kissing in that patch of sun like two lazy cats.

When the timer went off, I put my gold chain on him. It fit perfectly, snaking down to his clavicle. He took photos of us and told me not to stick my tongue out, to be serious "for memories". I looked at him and he looked straight down the lens ("Testosterone in shoes," my friend would call him when I texted the picture later.) I saw into the future – how many East Side women this chain would dangle on, just as it had dangled on me before them. And then it would un-dangle on them too.

Then I handed him the letter and told him not to read it until I was in the air, which he agreed was the most romantic way.

I told Craig I would miss him, lip curling as I said that I wished the timing were different. "But the timing could have only been the timing," he said, like some sort of surf Buddha, smiling radiantly. He was at peace. He stood outside as the car pulled away.

And, on that last day in Los Angeles, I lowered myself into the car, telling the driver – a stranger – to "Go, go. I'm going to cry. I'm sorry, I'm going to cry."

And I did cry, all the way there.

Later on the plane, I would look at the photos from Craig's room and feel a queasy homesickness for a place that had not been my home, longing for a lover who had not loved me, wondering if he'd read the letter yet, wondering if he'd read it a second time, wondering if he was already sleeping and then wondering if he was awake.

> *It was a* BEAUTIFUL *letter, the kind a person would feel* LUCKY *to receive. A reticent man would think, "This is one of the all-time* GREAT *notes. This is one of the all-time great* WOMEN*"*

I wished the TIMING *were* DIFFERENT. *"But the timing could have only been the* TIMING,*" he said, like some sort of surf* BUDDHA, SMILING *radiantly*

What I didn't yet know was that I would get off the plane to no message, hoping against hope that somehow the service in the airport allowed only my mother's texts to come through.

I didn't yet know that later I'd receive only a brief acknowledgment of receipt: "Hey, bud. Thanks for the nice note." I didn't know that over the next week his messages would slow to a trickle, then stop.

I didn't know that I would spend the entire 14 days of quarantine in London listening to "Shadowboxer" and crying, as much at the rejection as at my own stupidity, at the force with which I'd tried to hurl myself at an immovable object, the pieces of myself I'd given away.

I loved that necklace.

I barely slept, as if in some kind of pheromonal withdrawal. "How can you go from having sex with someone five times a day to not even wanting to know them?" I wailed to my mother.

"Well, that's your issue right there," she said. "You can't have sex five times a day – it's dangerous! You won't know which way is *up*."

I didn't know that two weeks after quarantine ended a friend would encourage me to get back on the horse and send my number to a man who he swore was "not your husband or anything, just a fun times guy". I didn't know that man would, in fact, be my husband.

Equally chastened and enlightened by the Craig of it all, I would ask this man hard questions, and I would really hear him when he answered, slowly and deliberately, sometimes telling me things he knew I wouldn't want to hear, but doing it anyway (which I've come to think *is* love.). Within weeks, he would be living with me in the small furnished apartment in Marylebone that had so recently felt like a purgatory, walking the dog with me on rainy nights as she carefully avoided the puddles – a California girl through and through. He would cackle beside me as he showed me British comedy classics, *The Inbetweeners* and *Brass Eye*, and one night, watching him smoke a rolled cigarette at the window, I'd think – without a whiff of the mania I'd felt that day in Ventura – "What a perfect place this is."

At work, I would start out confusing older British men with exuberant expressions of enthusiasm, grateful hugs, but soon they'd laugh when I said "I have to pee so bad" instead of whatever polite request for the ladies room they were expecting. I'd be gifted with a battery of new slang by the gen Z'ers with the cropped pink hair ("delulu") and intimidated by It girls in negligee dresses until they got drunk and admitted their affairs were just as messy as mine.

With this man, I would make moves – first to Hampstead, ambling past sweet families on picnics or men "cottaging" in the brush, depending on the time of day. Then to St John's Wood, where we watched tourists write their names on Abbey Road and strain for good pictures at the famous crossing. And finally to Islington, where I memorised the silhouette of everyone's parlour through their windows, becoming particularly obsessed by one Italianate mansion overlooking the park with windows so cobwebbed I was sure Miss Havisham was in residence (Dickens described her as "scarcely 40" and her fate had so recently seemed like mine). By this time, we would have gotten married in Soho, behind a red door in the late afternoon, our guests spilling onto Greek Street and smoking among the drunken party boys after midnight. We would drive seven hours to Wales to adopt a second dog, a scrawny boy the colour of sticky toffee pudding, deciding his name could not and should not remain "Dobby".

I didn't know Craig would text me a few times the next year, pictures of him repairing the necklace each time it broke, until finally he said, "The jeweller says he can't fix it again, guess I need a new one." One night, probably drunk, probably horny, he'd write, "You were so nice to me, Lena."

Being a writer, like dating, is just as much about what you refuse to see as what you skillfully observe. Craig's immaturity made me feel less old and his beauty made me feel more beautiful. I wanted, too badly, to be both of those things – and so I saw very little. It took longer than I'd like to admit to realise he hadn't awoken me – I was waking and he walked by.

Perhaps he wasn't the Jack Grealish of kissing, but I was the David Beckham of being kissed. He was a mirror, not a light. He was a Tube ride, not a destination.

They all were – and I got out when we reached my stop.

Too Much will be on Netflix from 10 July

Designer Profile

VOILA HAUTE COUTURE

Voila Haute Couture is a celebration of elevated femininity and timeless elegance. Their pieces are thoughtfully designed for the modern woman who appreciates refined detail, sculpted silhouettes and quiet luxury. Each creation speaks to confidence, sophistication and an enduring sense of style - effortlessly graceful, yet undeniably bold. Discover more at voilahautecouture.net and follow @voilahautecouture on Instagram.

ODETTE NOËLLE

Founded in Berlin 2023, Odette Noëlle offers original and custom, handmade looks designed by founder, Lucile Blanchard. From dresses to trousers, tops to accessories, knitting knows no season or limitation. Influenced by the city, the pieces celebrate sensuality, playfulness and delicacy. Explore www.odettenoelle.com and @odette__noelle on Instagram.

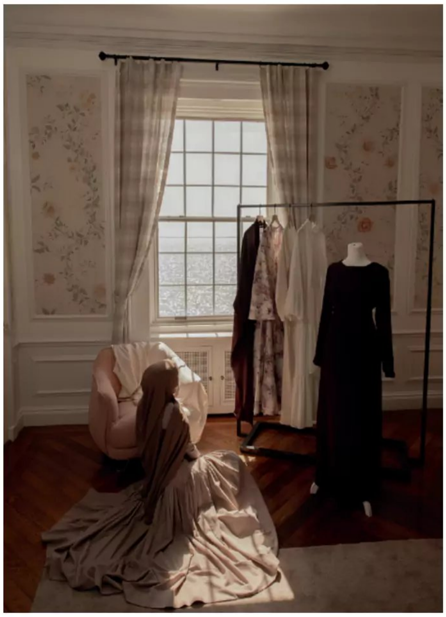
NANA-J

Rooted in retro nostalgia and the art of slowing down, Nana-J is an Australian brand creating chic, multi-purpose loungewear and lifestyle pieces for women burnt out on the grind. Whether you're lounging, sipping or strutting, their pieces are made to move with you. Soft, effortlessly cool, and built for the in-between moments. Discover www.nana-j.com and @nanajlounge on Instagram.

PAMELA STEVENSON

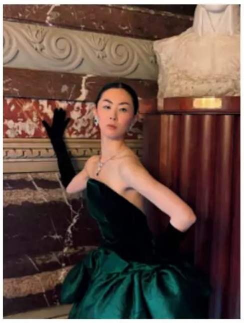
Pamela Stevenson is a contemporary womenswear brand proudly made in Colombia. Known for its intricate embroidery and vibrant prints, the label blends modern femininity with artisanal craftsmanship. Each piece reflects effortless elegance, celebrating bold, confident women through timeless silhouettes and rich cultural detail. Discover more at pamelastevenson.co/en and follow @pamelastevensonb on Instagram.

BATUL THE COLLECTION



Batul Bazzi is the heart behind Batul The Collection, a brand that celebrates modesty without sacrificing style. Known for her beautifully draped silhouettes and luxurious fabrics, Batul's designs offer a blend of timeless elegance and everyday wearability. Her brand empowers women to feel confident, feminine, and true to themselves, making Batul The Collection a favourite for those who value both fashion and faith. Visit www.batulthecollection.com and @batulthecollection on Instagram.

SHEILA VICENS



Sheila Vicens, the elusive stylist-turned-designer, emerges as fashion's best-kept secret. Her Paris Fashion Week debut dazzled critics, blending sustainable artistry with couture finesse. Transforming archival gowns into this sculptural emerald masterpiece, Vicens redefines luxury upcycling with her visionary touch and quiet brilliance positioning her as an unheralded artisan destined for greatness. Discover more at sheilavicens.com and follow @sheiladvicens on Instagram.

TEMRAZA

TEMRAZA is an international couture house founded by Farida Temraz. Known for its intricate craftsmanship and empowering silhouettes, the brand has dressed global celebrities, received international awards, and made history as one of the first Egyptian labels showcasing Middle Eastern wearable art to the world stage. Discover more at temraza.com and follow @temraza on Instagram.

BASAK COUTURE

Where nature meets allure. This Basak Couture design embraces the female form with effortless elegance. A soft bronze hue, sculpting lines, and sheer confidence—created for women who command attention without saying a word. Summer just got bolder. Visit basakcouture.net and @basak_couture on Instagram.

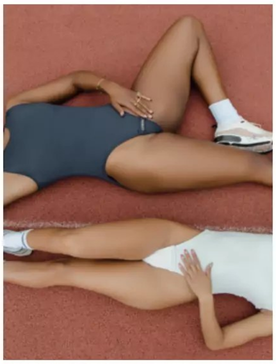
OTTÉ

Established in 2025 by Irish designer Tara Ott, OTTÉ is a celebration of over 15 years of artistry in the luxury fashion realm, where she has flourished as an esteemed stylist. The brand is a refined homage to her heritage, with each exquisite piece thoughtfully named after cherished Irish names, such as the elegant Fía dress and the graceful Sóni skirt, reflecting a rich cultural narrative woven into the fabric of modern sophistication. Explore www.ottethelabel.com and @ottethelabel on Instagram.

COSTANZO II

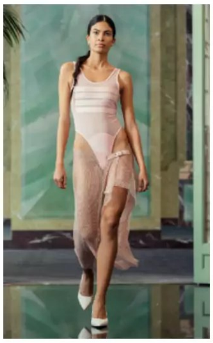
Costanzo II is a young, Melbourne-based brand founded by identical twins. They draw from their rich family heritage in fashion, their Nana was a dressmaker, their Nonna a seamstress and their Nonno a shoemaker from Italy. Their collection combines timeless elegance with modern silhouettes, prioritising craftsmanship and ethical production, with everything designed and made in Australia. Visit www.costanzoii.com and follow @costanzo.ii on Instagram.

LUSCA



LUSCA embodies elegant innovation. At the heart of every garment is their signature magnetic clasp – a discreet yet powerful fastener that ensures a seamless, secure fit. Luxurious, comfort-driven fabrics embrace the body, creating silhouettes that move with you. Discover the future of bodysuits at shoplusca.com and @shop_lusca on Instagram.

RUKO B



Ruko B, a New York-based fashion brand, designs sustainable, versatile clothing for everyday wear. Committed to quality and precision, each piece blends style, function, and eco-conscious craftsmanship. Inspired by HaRuko Mayfield, a resilient Japanese immigrant from Kume Island, Okinawa, who built a legacy through garment-making, Ruko B honours her dedication to durability and design. Dream it. Build it. Own it. Discover more at rukob.com and follow @ruko.b on Instagram.

ARODAZI

ARODAZI, founded by 21 year old designer, Izadora Hodges, is an independent brand focusing on what it is to feel powerful through the artistry of textile and silhouette. Inspired by her childhood experiences, ARODAZI offers an inclusive range of 'cool girl' wardrobe staples, using her signature silhouettes and fabrics to empower her customers. Photography: @squish.agency Models: Antoinette, Kyara and Mimi. Explore more at www.arodazi.com and @arodazidesigns on Instagram and view their full range.

BINBINI NEW YORK

BINIBINI New York is a slow fashion brand creating timeless, high-quality handbags with a focus on innovation and ethical craftsmanship. Their signature TOTE-ALL™, a patent-protected, versatile design, is made in small batches using Italian leather, and durable nylon. Handcrafted with skilled artisans, it's the ultimate everyday bag. Explore at binibininewyork.com and follow @binibininewyork on Instagram.

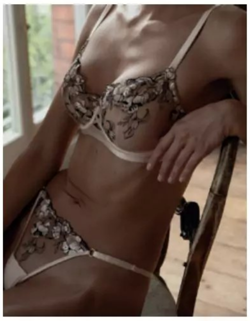
HERVÉ BY CÉLINE MARIE

HERVÉ by Céline Marie is a couture lingerie label celebrating every woman's uniqueness. Ethically handmade to order in their Barcelona atelier, each creation is customised to skin tone and measurements for true inclusivity. They empower women through self-love and redefine luxury with mindful, planet-conscious craftsmanship. Visit www.celine-marie.com or @herve.bycelinemarie on Instagram.

DINGDANG

Founded in 2021 by Duong Huong, DINGDANG is a fashion brand that seamlessly blends artistry with boldness. Through rule-defying designs, their collections celebrate freedom, individuality, and the fusion of heritage with innovation. DINGDANG empowers women to embrace their contradictions and dare to define their own identities. Visit dingdangglobal.com and follow on Instagram @dingdang.official

ENERJI LONDON



Blurring the lines between lingerie and wellness, Enerji is one of the first crystal-adorned luxury lingerie collections, designed to help empower your mind, body, and soul. Featuring interchangeable crystal-energy pendants with unique properties, each garment is exquisitely crafted with bespoke Swiss embroidery, delicate silk trims and 24k gold-plated accents. Visit www.enerjilondon.com and @enerjilondon on Instagram.

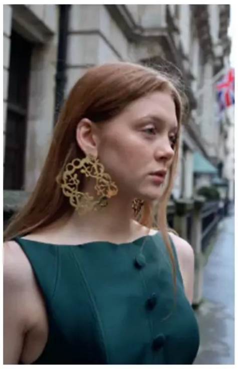
KENAI

Designed and handmade on the Caribbean island of Antigua, KENAÏ is a luxury sustainable swimwear brand emphasising small-batch productions and custom orders. Founded by two best friends, Morgan and Amanda, each piece is fit-focused, versatile and designed to take you from the beach to a sunset cocktail soirée. Additionally, the whole collection is made from recycled beach plastic. Explore kenaiswimwear.com and @kenaiswimwear on Instagram.

ILLONA ATELIER

Illona Atelier is a contemporary ready-to-wear brand founded by twin sisters Jessica and Joy, from the southwest of Lagos, Nigeria. Their handcrafted, artisan pieces redefine modern femininity with bold, vibrant designs that celebrate confidence and elegance. Showcased here by leading influencer, Bunmi George. Explore www.illonaatelier.com and @illona.atelier on Instagram.

SF BY SARAH FUAD



SF BY SARAH FUAD is a womenswear brand now expanded into jewellery. Each piece features their signature logo and is plated in 22k gold, blending fashion and identity. The collection infuses timeless designs with bold elegance and a contemporary edge. Discover more at www.sfbysarahfuad.com and follow @sfbysarahfuad on Instagram.

SLOPPY SECONDS

Sloppy Seconds is a visionary up-cycled clothing label breathing new life into preloved garments. Fusing classic menswear silhouettes with delicate feminine touches, the brand, led by designer Maddie West, crafts timeless wardrobe staples, through a contemporary lens. Where sustainability meets sartorial sophistication, discover more at sloppysecondsnyc.co and @sloppysecondsnyc

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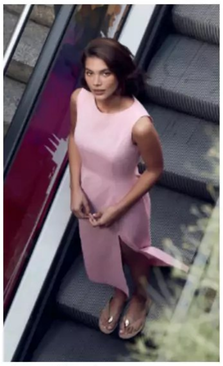
Designer Profile

ME ESSE



Me Esse is a UK-based womenswear label redefining everyday elegance through timeless design and conscious craftsmanship. With an unwavering commitment to using the finest natural fabrics and ethical production, Me Esse elevates the modern capsule wardrobe, offering enduring trans-seasonal style for women who value beauty and sustainability. Discover the collection at www.meesse.com and follow @meessebrand on Instagram.

UNTOLD STORY

Untold Story is a mid-luxe lingerie and swimwear label championing bold femininity through expressive design, saturated colour palettes, and unapologetic detail. Founded by designer Ellie Gough, the brand offers curated collections that blur the line between seduction and self-celebration. With bras starting at £49 and sizes from 32B to 36E, each piece is crafted to empower and enchant. Explore the collection at www.untoldstory.co.uk and @untoldstory on Instagram.

MAZDEN

Mazden is a luxury outerwear and fashion brand creating timeless essentials from natural and sustainable materials. The ECRUE Spring/Summer 2025 collection features breathable cotton, ultra-soft wool, and custom trims, crafted for modern sophistication, lasting comfort, and premium quality. Each piece is made with care to elevate everyday wear. Visit mazden.co and follow @mazdenofficial on Instagram.

DOUVOS CONTOUR

Women's bodies change. Yet most underwear isn't made to adapt to these natural changes, often leaving us feeling self-conscious in our own skin. DOUVOS CONTOUR creates sustainable intimates that embrace your body through every phase - for comfort that adapts and confidence that stays. Find your true fit at douvos-contour.com or follow on Instagram @douvos_contour Featuring Ema Louise (@emaxlouise) in the Embroidery Set Anyra.

FAIRCHILD BALDWIN

Founded by Jill Fairchild, Fairchild Baldwin is an NYC-based women's fashion brand, offering contemporary luxury accessories handcrafted in Italy. Initially gaining recognition for their handbags, they have since expanded into necklaces and accessories, including their iconic Bella Necklace. Explore their designs that highlight versatility, rich leathers, multifunctional components and enduring quality. Visit fairchildbaldwin.com and @fairchildbaldwin on Instagram.

SUEUR SWIM

Unique styles that continue to sell-out, redefining swimwear couture, can be found at Sueur Swim. Created by founder Natalie Le Sueur's love for sun-kissed destinations and an unwavering search for Insta-worthy style. Her first collection completely selling out and her Coquillage shell bikini going viral across the globe, told us Sueur Swim is one to watch! With consistent creativity and head-turning designs - Sueur Swim will satisfy a craving for style over basic swimsuits. Transition seamlessly from beach to bar at sueurswim.com and follow @sueurswim on Instagram. Photography: Click Media Productions. Hair and Makeup: Bronte Scullion.

SAN RINI SWIM

San Rini Swim is the sculpting swimwear label making waves with Europe-bound It-Girls. Each piece flatters like shapewear, wears like activewear, and looks like a dream— bold, body-enhancing, and limited-edition. Engineered to celebrate your pilates body and styled to steal the scene. Discover more at sanriniswim.com or @sanriniswim on Instagram.

VICTORIA AMERSON

Victoria Amerson is redefining modern glamour with vintage flair, channelling the timeless elegance of Audrey Hepburn in every runway look. Since her dazzling debut at London Fashion Week SS25, she's captivated fashion capitals worldwide. A celebrated designer, actress, musician, and Miss Austria titleholder, Victoria continues to stun - most recently dressing stars at the Cannes Film Festival. Discover more at www.victoriaamerson.net and follow @victoria.amerson.design on Instagram.

ISLAPAYAL

IslaPayal is an everyday luxury fashion brand based in Miami, designed by Payal Mehra for the modern global woman. The Summer collection evokes sun-drenched beach vacations, sunflowers, and the classic American reds and blues, featuring vibrant prints and contemporary silhouettes that have a timeless quality. Visit www.islapayal.com and @islapayal on Instagram.

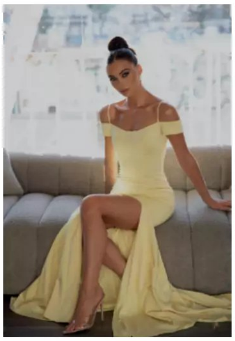
MODERN MONARCHIE

Crafted from genuine Panama straw, each Modern Monarchie hat is shaped by hand and finished in-house with vintage ribbons, hand-sewn details, and natural embellishments. A tribute to artisanal traditions, where timeless design meets refined craftsmanship. Explore modernmonarchie.com and @modernmonarchie on Instagram.

ZAYDEN DRAPE DÉ LUXE

Redefining feminine power, Atlanta-based designer Zayden Skipper launched Zayden Drape Dé Luxe in 2021. Known for bold prints, sultry silhouettes, and luxe textures, his designs exude unapologetic sensuality and sophistication. A Project Runway SS19 star, Zayden's designs turn heads with luxurious textures that whisper against your skin and intricate details that command attention. Dare to embrace your sensuality at zaydendrapedeluxe.net and follow @zaydenthedesigner for updates.

HOUSE OF HADIYAH



House of Hadiyah blends timeless elegance with modern femininity, offering statement pieces that empower women to feel confident and unforgettable. Each design is selected with meticulous attention to detail, emphasising luxurious fabrics, bold silhouettes, and a signature touch of drama. A go-to for those who want to turn heads while staying true to their personal style. Explore www.houseofhadiyah.com and @houseofhadiyah on Instagram. Shot by Arezoo Jalali.

MAGENTA THREADS

Magenta Threads' beautiful fabrics and understated garment designs complement your body and elevate your confidence. Inspired by classic silhouettes, cuts and tailoring, rather than trends, they prefer couture methods over fast fashion techniques. Designer Katrina develops Australian landscape elements into original prints, using photography, sketches and digital skills, and screenprints derived from the applied arts. Visit magentathreads.com and explore @magenta_threads on Instagram.

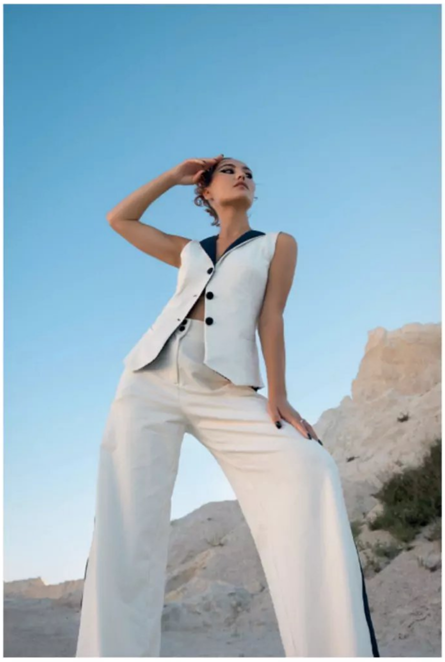
WEIZ DHURM FRANKLYN

Weiz Dhurm Franklyn is a Nigerian High End Fashion Brand with its core aesthetic embedded in surrealism, nature and abstraction. Discover daring design patterns that have never been seen before at weizdhurmfranklyn.com and follow @weizdhurmfranklyn on Instagram.

L'ETE INDIEN THE LABEL

L'ete Indien The Label embodies true sustainability across environmental, social, and economic dimensions. Founded in 2019 by Asia H, a French entrepreneur with a passion for fashion and art, the brand views sustainability as an ongoing journey. Their commitment extends beyond materials to encompass their entire business model, making a meaningful difference with each beautifully crafted garment. Explore leteindienthelabel.com and @leteindienthelabel on Instagram.

IELLELE



Iellele reveals a refined mastery of contemporary sartorial language. Cristina Zavati's creations express a multifaceted femininity, balancing sophisticated minimalism with bold details. Each piece becomes a distinctive statement, blending creative vision, identity, and artisanal care into an aesthetic that is both authentic and deeply personal. Explore iellele.com and @iellele_official on Instagram.

MNM COUTURE

This MNM Couture dress, as seen on actress, producer, model and CEO Christina Cooper, was beautifully crafted by designer Gaby Charbachy, styled by Desiree Delrio, with make-up by Nancy Prieto. The collaborative Couture collection showcases the transformative versatility of texture, shape and vibrant colour, featuring exquisite details. Explore mnmcouture.com and @mnmcouture_ on Instagram. Shot by Aaron Lacy.

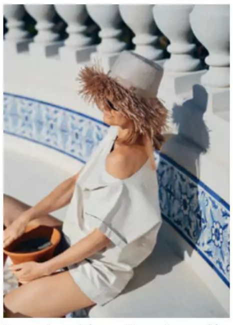
NYVA SCARVES

Rooted in intention and driven by detail, NYVA is redefining modest fashion through elevated essentials. From their Signature Instant Chiffon Hijab with built-in magnets, to carefully curated tones and effortless silhouettes, each piece is designed for ease and elegance — because hijab should never be complicated. Explore nyvascarves.com and @nyvascarves on Instagram.

LOLA RAE

Lola Rae Fashion is a London-based brand founded by two sisters, offering chic, stylish resort wear. Designed and manufactured in London, the brand exudes elegance and style with timeless pieces, perfect for your summer wardrobe. With a focus on standout designs and flawless holiday looks, Lola Rae is the brand to know this season. Explore www.lolaraefashion.co.uk and @lolaraefashion on Instagram.

VICTORIA SLAVINSKAIA



Victoria Slavinskaia presents the new LUXE RARE HEADWEAR collection. Each piece is meticulously handcrafted in Italy by master artisans in limited quantities to ensure exceptional quality and exclusivity. Made from the finest fabrics from the same suppliers trusted by some of the world's most prestigious luxury brands, this collection offers customers the privilege of owning something truly unique. Discover more at victoriaslavinskaia.com and follow @victoriaslavinskaia on Instagram.

SEAFFAIR

Launched in Dubai, SEAFFAIR is an ethically crafted resortwear brand founded by world traveller Fiona. Known for its one-size fits all, silk designs, the brand now spans all seasons. From its Vienna flagship to iconic locations like the Burj Al Arab in Dubai, Mykonos, Ibiza, and Croatia, SEAFFAIR is where style meets soul. Discover elegance at seaffair.com and follow @seaffair.resortwear on Instagram. Photography: beatesweis.com

STICKY NICKY

Discover Sticky Nicky: handcrafted crochet bags made to order in Zurich. Each piece is a unique creation crafted from 100% recycled wool available in a wide variety of colours. Where sustainability meets artistry, these bags are perfect for those who appreciate distinctive style. Elevate your accessory game with a one-of-a-kind masterpiece! Discover more at stickynicky.ch and follow @sticky._.nicky on Instagram.

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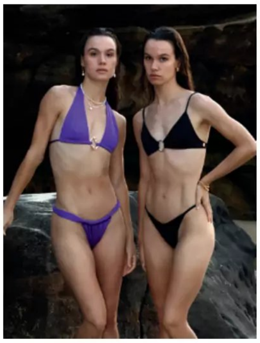
Designer Profile

OMRAY SWIMWEAR



Omray is about creating an experience, a feeling, and a statement for the modern woman who seeks to blend elegance with sustainability. Harmoniously blending minimalism and sensuality, each piece combines refined, delicate details and Italian fabrics to transform a simple day at the beach into a full-fledged luxury experience. Explore omrayswimwear.com and @omrayswimwear on Instagram.

PERFECT POPULATION BY KL ALLEN

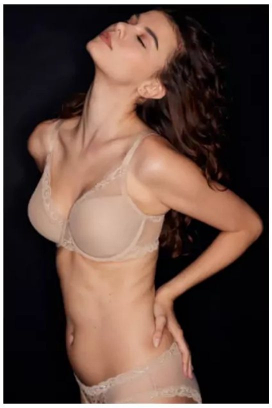
Perfect Population by KL Allen is a visionary fashion house rooted in cultural storytelling, bold futurism, and elevated design. Known for blending high-concept fashion with immersive narratives, the brand bridges style and symbolism to ignite global conversations in art, identity, and innovation. Discover more at perfectpopulation.com and follow @perfectpopulationbyklallen on Instagram.

PEDRO TRINDADE

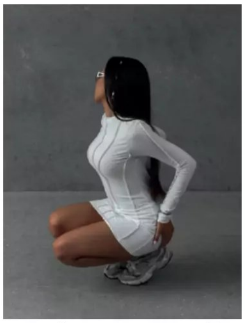
Pedro Trindade is a Brazilian designer exploring the undressing of gendered performances through a fusion of tailoring and draped pieces. Based in London, his brand values craftsmanship, premium fabrics, and small-batch production. His Autumn/Winter 25/26 collection, presented in Paris, reimagines classic silhouettes with fluid sensuality and lasting quality. Discover more at pedrotrindade.co.uk and follow @pedrotrindade.studio on Instagram.

LINGERIE LIVING

Founded by a team of intimate apparel experts, Lingerie Living brings the luxury of personal shopping to lingerie. With curated selections and exceptional service, they offer a personalised experience to take the guesswork out of bra and lingerie shopping. Explore a civilised way to shop at lingerieliving.com and @lingerieliving on Instagram.

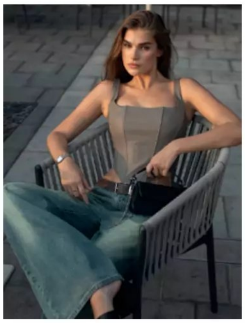


VOAH



Voah is redefining streetwear with an unapologetically edgy yet feminine aesthetic. Voah blends bold design with everyday wearability, creating pieces that stand out for a new generation of style disruptors. At the heart of the brand is a commitment to creating looks that feel fresh, confident, and distinctly now. It's more than streetwear—it's a statement. Voah is for the girl who knows who she is and isn't afraid to show it. Shop online at www.voah.com.au and follow on socials @wearevoah

MILANA MARHEL

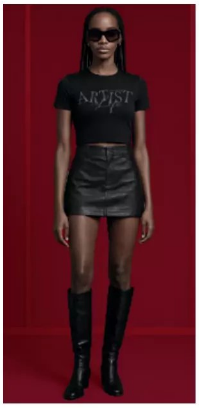


Milana Marhel specialises in high-quality leather corsets that combine comfort and style like never before. Known for their luxurious leatherwear and intimates, today, the brand remains a symbol of excellence, continually redefining sensuality and sophistication in fashion. Each corset upholds the enduring spirit of a woman who refused to settle for anything less than perfection. Explore milanamarhel.com and @milanamarhel on Instagram. Shot by @elizavetafilchenko

GAJÚ

Gajú's debut London-inspired collection captures bold femininity and refined colour. This proudly Made in Italy luxury brand embodies exceptional craftsmanship with the finest sustainable fabrics: creating timeless, fluid silhouettes. Gajú is where international heritage meets innovation, and artisanal tradition defines contemporary sophistication. Visit www.maisongaju.com and @maisongaju on Instagram.

FAITHFUL PEOPLE



Faithful People, a unique brand in streetwear space, designs clothes to uplift those around us and inspire harmony. With positive messages on every shirt, the wearer can empower the people around them and receive reciprocal support, promoting connections over individuality. In their collection, style meets purpose-wear empowerment, to help the world become a more capable, positive place. Visit thefaithfulpeople.com and @thefaithfulpeople on Instagram.

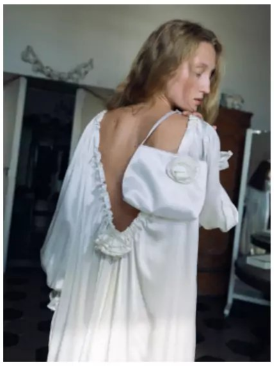
POMPO

Pompo is a Mexican brand that leverages high quality materials and expert craftsmanship that their beautiful country provides, to create timeless, innovative and sustainable designs inspired by unrestricted individuality. Discover more at pompo.com.mx and follow @shoppompo on Instagram.

ETERNOIR

Luxury, redefined. At ETERNOIR, silk isn't just worn - it's lived. Timeless, conscious and meticulously crafted for the woman who leads with quiet elegance. Every piece moves with you, breathes with you, and endures beyond seasons. Discover the art of effortless sophistication at www.eternoir.eu and @eternoir.apparel

NOT JUST PAJAMA



Not Just Pajama offers more than silk loungewear - they create moments of elegant comfort and mindful luxury. Rooted in the art of slow living, and empowered by the strength of women, their designs transform everyday moments into experiences of sophistication, self-care, and quiet confidence. Explore www.notjustpajama.com and @notjustpajama on Instagram.

PAVLINA JAUSS

Founded in 2016 by a Bulgarian-born designer, Pavlina Jauss crafts avant-garde womenswear from its studio in Germany. Each piece is made with premium fabrics sourced from Europe and Japan, reflecting a deep commitment to sustainability through ethical sourcing and local production. The SS2025 collection, Gorgons, channels the fierce beauty of Greek mythology. Explore more at pavlinajauss.com and follow @pavlinajauss on Instagram.

BLESS ATLANTA

BLESS ATLANTA

This inclusive lifestyle brand celebrates cultural diversity through contemporary design that honours heritage with modern flair. Through thoughtfully crafted apparel, Bless empowers individuality while fostering community connection. Their collaborative ethos with artisans and cultural initiatives transforms everyday fashion into a movement that balances authenticity with universal appeal. Visit www.blessatlanta.com and @blessatlanta on Instagram. Model: @blakexchristopher

BOBBY MACC

Founded in 2008, BOBBY MACC is a second generation tailor and fashion designer. His inspiration stems from his childhood and mother, who was also a professional dressmaker. The luxury brand specialise in bespoke tailoring and made to order footwear for both men and women alike - notably their 24k gold bottom shoes. Whether you are after traditional or modern bespoke, Bobby Macc have you covered for every occasion. Visit bobbymacc.com and @bobbymaccbespokecouture on Instagram.

SIGRUN

Sigrun Design and Nanna Lín unite to create high fashion from Nanna Lín's innovative fish leather by the meter and traditional hand-crafted versions. This partnership transforms discarded materials into wearable art, blending modern design with circular economy values. Follow their future in sustainable style at sigrundesign.com and @sigrundesign on Instagram. Credits to @nanna_lin_leather

28NATELIER

Blurring the lines between precision tailoring and bold femininity, 28NATELIER is a rising womenswear label redefining contemporary fashion from the heart of Abu Dhabi. Designed and produced in-house, each limited-edition piece balances structure, sustainability, and quiet impact - made for women who don't follow trends, they set them. Visit 28natelier.com and @28natelier on Instagram.

I AM DENIM

I Am Denim is a British-born brand revolutionising jeans for every shape, size, scar, and story. Founded by a visionary who turned pain into purpose, each piece fuses intelligent design with innovation, featuring the brand's signature Tender Tummy Technology. Crafted to offer a fusion of elegance and empowerment, I Am Denim redefines confidence in every stitch. Explore www.iamdenim.co.uk and @iamdenimlondon on Instagram.

GIFTED MISFIT

Gifted Misfit is a bold, streetwear clothing brand celebrating individuality and creative rebellion. Designed for those who defy norms, it merges edgy style with purpose, empowering outcasts, visionaries and dreamers to embrace their uniqueness. Gifted Misfit isn't just fashion - it's a movement for the unapologetically original. Visit www.giftedmisfit.co and @giftedmisfitco on Instagram.

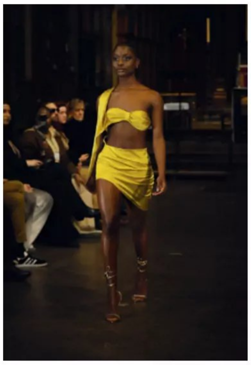
ZP SHOES

From Mexico, ZP Shoes reinvents footwear with a bold and sophisticated approach. Founded by Cristian Villagomez and Montserrat Ramírez, the brand balances timeless design and innovation, with pieces that capture the changing pulse of global fashion without losing their minimalist and powerful essence. Discover more at zapateriaperezoficial.com.mx and follow @zapateriaperezoficial on Instagram.

SAMARA NATURAL RESORT WEAR

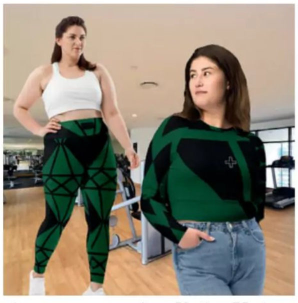
Samara Natural Resort Wear- a luxury sustainable brand from Bali- expands with its 6th boutique and elite hotel partnerships in Bali & Jakarta. Crafted from OEKO-TEX® certified European linen, each piece blends effortless elegance with eco-conscious integrity. GMO-free, traceable, and sustainably grown. For the modern traveller who dresses with intention. Discover more at samaranaturalresortwear.com and follow @samara.naturalresortwear on Instagram.

GOLDANA



Goldana Designs, founded by Aurita Vieira, fuses 90s urban flair with timeless elegance. Ethically made and fully inclusive, the brand celebrates all bodies with customisable pieces. Born in resilience, Goldana is redefining fashion for bold, multifaceted women who refuse to be limited. Photography: @lozfolio Model: @adjele._ Visit www.goldanadesigns.com and @goldanadesigns on Instagram.

YESHUAXS-L.NYC



YeshuaXs-l.nyc was created by medical data scientist, Sarah McLeod, who is inspired to create designs for the generation who seek to know Jesus. Sometimes ethereal, mostly relatable and always empowering, YeshuaXs-l.nyc's luxurious, peach-skin fabrics are mainly sourced from Latvia. For eco-friendly size-inclusive and affordable styles visit WWW.S-L.NYC and follow @yeshuaxslnyc on Instagram.

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Jewellery Designer Profile

FULLORD

Fullord unveils Eden, a collection for those who dare. For those who find strength in transformation and wear their choices with pride. Crafted in 18K gold, adorned with diamonds, sapphires, and tsavorites, each piece is inspired by the apple, lemon, and orange, symbols of individuality and bold self-expression. Designed in Switzerland. Made in Italy. Visit fullord.com and follow @fullordgeneva on Instagram.

LINA RAI FINE JEWELRY

Lina Rai Fine Jewelry celebrates women through vibrant handcrafted pieces created from solid 18-kt gold, fine precious stones and diamonds. With 20 years of expertise, Lina infuses each design with bold enamel colours and emotions. In 2025, the Lebanese brand marked its 20th anniversary with a successful pop-up in London, sharing its joyful, empowering spirit with an international audience. Visit www.linarai.com and follow @linaraijewelrycouture on Instagram.

ROHLOFFBEADS

Rohloffbeads tells stories through beads. Each piece is a delicate one-of-a-kind creation, handcrafted by Swetlana Rohloff with exceptional finesse. Inspired by nature and driven by emotion, she also invites others to create: with elegant DIY kits and tutorials. Art you can wear – or make yourself. Free worldwide shipping from Germany. Visit www.rohloffbeads.com and follow on Instagram @rohloffbeads

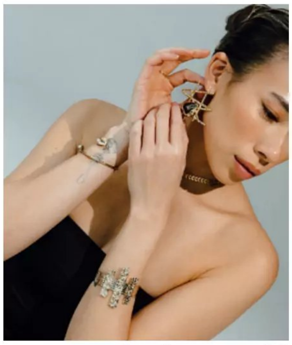
SYLVIE MAJEROVA JEWELLERY

Sylvie Majerova Jewellery is bought by women and men as a good luck charm, which can motivate them as they transition towards life changes, and positive new periods of life. She works with gold and sterling silver and unique natural gemstones. Her one-of-a-kind jewellery pieces are carefully crafted with respect to ecology. Visit www.sylviemajerova.cz and follow @sylviemajerova on Instagram.

ZIGLEYS

Zigleys creates fine jewellery for locs, braids, and twists - where heritage meets high design. Crafted in real gold, each piece celebrates the artistry of textured hair and the richness of African identity through timeless adornment. Visit www.zigleys.com and follow on Instagram @zigleys

YASMEEN JEWELLERY



Yasmeen Jewellery is a Canadian brand that creates bold, unique designs inspired by rich cultural influences and modern elegance. High-quality yet affordable, each piece is made to stand out. Explore the collection at www.yasmeenjewellery.com and follow on Instagram @yasmeen_jewels for their latest styles.

COLA STACKS

Cola Stacks is an up-and-coming US-based jewellery brand offering stunning collections of vibrant, joyful jewellery. Featuring playful colour palettes and beautiful detailing, their pieces are perfect for spring and summer. Founder Payton Hollingsworth is committed to values-driven enterprise, giving back to charitable foundations and the community. Visit shopcolastacks.com or follow @colastacks on Instagram.

MELMOMILK DESIGN

Melmomilk Design creates wearable art from up-cycled plastics such as PET bottles / egg cartons. Each piece is handcrafted in Singapore by a Japanese artisan, Mami, inspired by nature, shaped petal by petal. The Eternal Orchid features freshwater pearls and gold-filled accents — each piece tells a story, made to last and inspire. Visit melmomilk.com and follow @melmomilkdesign

MORPHÖSE

At Morphöse, each piece symbolises a transformation— from raw metal to refined elegance, from forgotten past to eternal beauty. Their handmade and vintage jewellery pieces are inspired by Greek mythology and the versatility of enchantment. Explore their unique collection at www.morphose.be and follow on Instagram @morphose.jewel

VAIN JEWELRY

Inspired by the unapologetic elegance of modern femininity, Vain Jewelry crafts fine jewellery for those who dare to stand out. Founded by Michelle Vain, each piece is meticulously made using sustainable materials and conflict-free gemstones. Discover the art of bold luxury at bevain.de and @michellevain on Instagram.

OUTERMOST ACCESSORIES

Outermost Accessories is an East Tennessee based brand specialising in eye-catching jewellery for showcasing individuality. The pieces are handcrafted by Channing 'Fynn' Gentry, who aims to inspire confidence through his work. A portion of proceeds is donated to a mental health focused organisation. To find the perfect piece for you, visit www.outermostaccessories.com and follow @outermost_accessories on Instagram.

EVENTYR VERDEN

Rooted in fairytales and the mass-produced iconography of girlhood, Eventyr Verden reimagines nostalgia through a hyper-feminine, grown-up lens. Nodding to plastic princess toys and rhinestones, playthings are hardened into polished stainless steel - turned into wearable relics. Find out more at eventyrverden.com and @eventyrverden on Instagram.

IVAR

Founded by Ritika Ravi, IVAR inventively blends traditional Indian craftsmanship with a contemporary design perspective, creating modern heritage pieces that are both treasurable and wearable. Select styles, curated by La Maison Couture, are available exclusively at Selfridges London and online at ivarjewelry.com Discover more @ivarfinejewelry on Instagram.

DALIDAS

From garden to jewellery – real flowers, handpicked and pressed with care, captured in resin like still moments of spring. Set in gold-plated stainless steel, each piece is a delicate echo of nature, made to be worn, cherished, and remembered. Visit dalidas.com and follow @dalidas_jewelry on Instagram to find out more.

MAYIANA

The MY Seahorse Collection is a tribute to the quiet strength and grace of the seahorse, a creature that embraces stillness in a constantly moving world. Unlike most fish that are always on the go, seahorses anchor themselves with their prehensile tails, a poetic symbol of resilience and grounding amidst life's ever-changing tides. This philosophy is intricately woven into the collection's design, where fluid, sculptural shapes echo the delicate curves of the seahorse's tail. Each piece captures the essence of movement and stability, balancing bold artistry with refined elegance—an emblem of inner strength and timeless beauty. Visit mayiana-jewels.com and follow @mayiana.jewels on Instagram. Visit the showroom, at Cr de Rive 11, 1204 Geneva, Switzerland or call +41 79 515 89 18 for further information.

BALDUCCI

Cultured pearl necklace with white gold diamond set and pearl center piece. Contact Annette for your own bespoke design at Balducci Jewellers on 0151 336 5235.

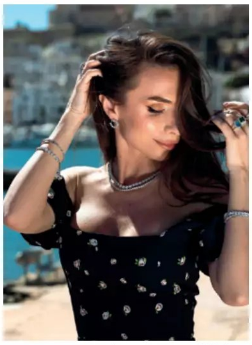
STUDIO AGAEA

Studio Agaea explores the intersection of digital and traditional craftsmanship, using CAD, 3D printing and silversmithing to create exquisite fine silver jewellery. The visible imprint of the 3D printer is both topographical and organic, evoking a sense of fluidity that compliments the abstract, organic forms of the jewellery pieces. Visit www.studioagaea.com and follow @studioagaea on Instagram.

SKETCHY BONES COLLECTIVE

With a curiosity for unconventional beauty, Sketchy Bones Collective translates the peculiarities of our natural world into highly detailed jewellery. Introducing Loud Mouth, the Sketchy Bones signature ring and everyone's favourite set of chompers. Available in silver & gold. Explore the full collection on www.sketchybonescollective.com and follow @sketchybonescollective on Instagram.

MAISON BIJOU



Born under the Balearic sun, the Maison Bijou Resort Collection embodies the essence of Ibiza—crystal blue waters, golden light, and endless nights. From sunlit shores to evening soirées, each piece exudes effortless femininity and timeless chic, designed to empower the woman who shines brightly in every room she enters. Visit www.maisonbijou.eu and follow @maisonbijou.eu on Instagram.

AU+C

au+c — gold and diamond in elemental harmony. A quiet force in fine jewellery, crafting genderless pieces that speak in subtle contrast: raw and refined, bold and restrained. Hand-forged from precious materials, each design is an intimate expression — some created just once, for one. Visit www.auplusc.com to explore the collections and follow @auplusc on Instagram.

FACTORY BY RIBAS

Factory by Ribas offers exquisite diamond jewellery, combining modern luxury with timeless elegance. Founded by Dana Ribas in Lithuania, the brand is known for its bold yet sophisticated designs, crafted with the finest diamonds and precious metals. Each piece embodies exceptional craftsmanship and contemporary style, making it a perfect choice for those who appreciate refined beauty and exclusivity. Visit factorybyribas.com and follow @factorybyribas on Instagram.

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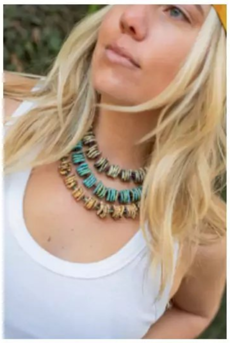
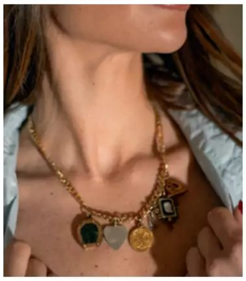
Jewellery Designer Profile

CURIO GARDEN



Designer Anna Louise Margeson presents Curio Garden, a unique collection of gemstone jewellery, drawing inspiration from the magic of nature to create wearable pieces of art. Dress up or down, make an impactful statement with one or create a stack; this collection is both versatile and affordable. Visit shopcuriogarden.com and follow @curio.garden on Instagram to discover more of this unique collection.

MAGGIE JEWELRY

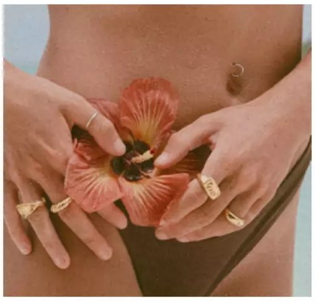


Maggie Jewelry offers a refined take on personal expression with custom charm necklaces adorned with a curated mix of vintage, estate, heirloom, and bespoke charms. Every element is hand-selected to capture the individual's beauty, story, and style. Thoughtfully designed and artfully assembled, Maggie Jewelry captures the essence of timeless style and elegance. Photo credit to Abby Pullicin, a Charleston, South Carolina, Photographer. Visit shopmaggiejewelry.com and follow @shopmaggiejewelry on Instagram.

ACARDI

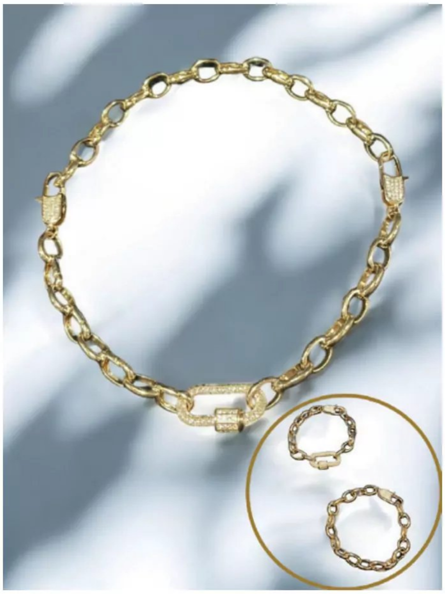
Swedish jewellery brand Acardi showcases the essence of Scandinavian design through its minimalistic pieces. Crafted from sterling silver and premium stainless steel, each piece is built to withstand the test of time, offering durability and backed by a lifetime warranty. Buy yours at acardi.co and follow @acardiofficial on Instagram.

HATHAURA



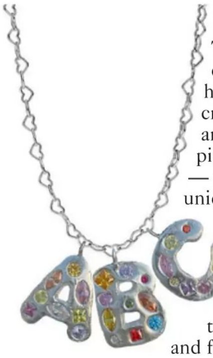
Founder Beth Frost creates timeless jewellery rooted in the rhythms of the natural world. Guided by curiosity and intuition, she gathers organic forms along her journeys and reimagines them in precious metals. Each piece is crafted with intention, becoming a quiet talisman of memory, place, and wild beauty. Visit www.hathaura.com and follow on Instagram @hathaura.sun. Image by @coral_littlejohn

LINK ET CETERA



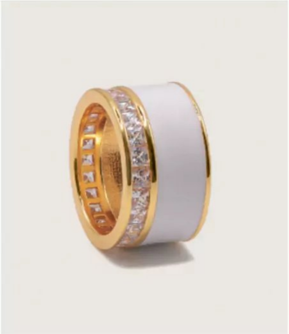
A 'Gold Enigma' , this one-of-a-kind piece transforms with you—wear it as two stackable bracelets, a pocket chain, or a rhinestone choker. Reimagine it endlessly! This embodies the DNA of Link Et Cetera. Handcrafted in Houston, TX. Shop this maximalist essential and more at www.linketcetera.com and @linketcetera on all socials.

TWENTY-SECOND



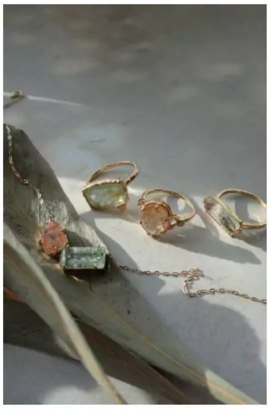
Twenty-Second is a colourful celebration of handmade jewellery, crafted with recycled silver and vibrant stones. Each piece is a playful spark — meaningful, ethical, and unique. Made in small batches, the brand brings charm and individuality to everyday wear. Discover more at twentysecondjewelry.com and follow @twentysecondco on Instagram.

AYNUR JAHAN JEWELRY



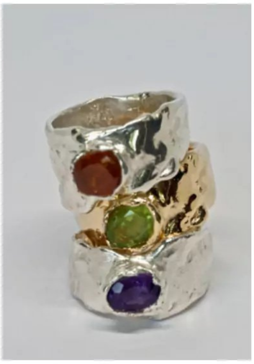
Aynur Jahan Jewelry is where bold design meets artistic soul. Born in Baku and designed in Toronto, Aynur's pieces blend global inspiration with modern elegance. Each creation is crafted for women who embrace individuality, make statements, and wear their story with style. Visit aynurjahan.com and follow @aynurjahan on Instagram.

KAKERA



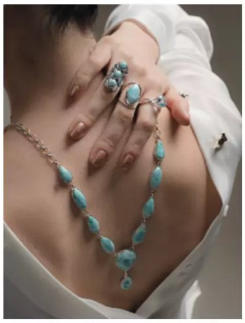
KAKERA is a Japanese jewellery brand focusing on natural stones. The designer is inspired by motifs from the natural world, creating timeless jewellery that combines the inherent beauty and individuality of natural stones with delicate Japanese craftsmanship. Visit www.fdcp.co.jp and follow @kakera_jewelry on Instagram.

MORDENTE



Mordente is a handcrafted jewellery brand from Mexico City by Karla Askenazi. Each imperfect piece honours individuality and self-expression, blending traditional techniques with modern design. It's a celebration of passion, heritage, and the beauty found in what makes us authentic. Visit mordente.com.mx and follow @__Mordente on Instagram.

STERLING AND STONE



Sterling and Stone Jewelry believe that jewellery is not just a product but a true manifestation of artistry. Their exquisite range of gemstone jewellery strikes the perfect balance between timeless charm and contemporary allure. Each design is created to capture the beauty and essence of special occasions in a person's life, making Sterling & Stone an integral part of their journey. Visit sterlingandstonejewelry.com and follow @sterlingandstonejewelry on Instagram.

MOOLAE

With a focus on enduring value, this contemporary jewellery brand is reshaping how we wear and rewear gold. They offer timeless pieces that can be recycled into future designs—an innovative approach for the thoughtful collector. Smart, stylish, and sustainably minded, Moolae is a name to know. Visit moolae.com and follow @moolae.official on Instagram.

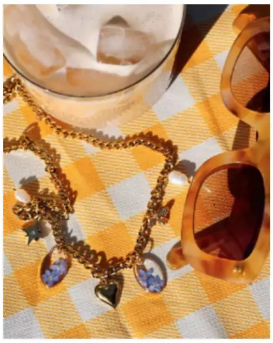
MUMI&CO

MuMi&Co by K.Mills designs sustainable jewellery inspired by the energy and vibes of the cosmos. They create designs with raw and unique finishes, making every single piece different, each one made by hand in Spain with silver or plated in 18k gold. Discover more at www.mumiandco.com and follow them on Instagram @mumiandcojoyas

THE WANDERING JEWEL

Capture effortless elegance and a playful edge with these Skinny Dipping Heart Diamond Earrings from The Wandering Jewel. Delicate heart silhouettes shimmer with ethically sourced natural diamonds, reflecting light and emotion. Lightweight and luminous, they evoke romance, freedom, and bold femininity—perfect for the one who loves with intention and lives with a wandering spirit. Visit thewanderingjewel.com and follow @thewanderingjewel_shop on Instagram.

KAMA

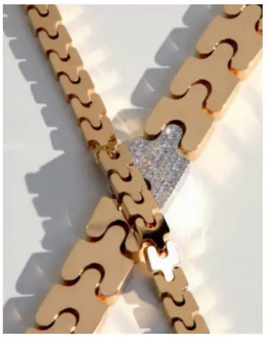


KAMA stands for sustainable, handcrafted jewellery with character. Each piece tells a story, combines nature with design, and is crafted with dedication. The focus is on quality, individuality, and the conscious use of resources. Inspiration and materials from nature – each piece a fragment of earth, captured for eternity. Visit www.kama-jewellery.com and follow @kamajewellery on Instagram.

SARA GALLO

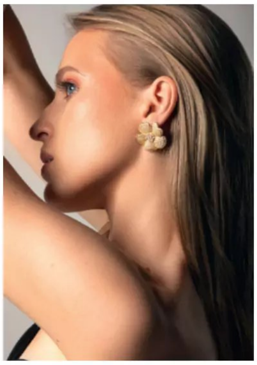
Sara Gallo believes jewellery is more than adornment—it's a reflection of who we are. It marks life's most meaningful moments and connects us to the past in deeply personal ways. Sara specialises in crafting one-of-a-kind pieces that honour your story, vision, and individuality. Whether you're commemorating a milestone or simply treating yourself, Sara Gallo will help you create something beautiful, lasting, and uniquely yours. Visit www.SaraGallo.com and follow on Instagram @saragallojewelers

NOMIS



NOMIS, known for its versatile jewellery, introduces a vibrant season of unique shapes and colours. Enjoy rich hues in signature cuffs or create a choker with chunky gold bracelets from the Misha collection, featuring cognac and white diamonds. Self-expression awaits with their extraordinary multifunctional jewellery for women and men. Visit nomis-jewelry.com/en-uk and @nomis_jewelry on Instagram.

VIVIANA HALIL

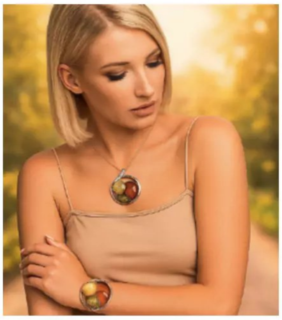


Viviana Halil was born from a fierce passion to revolutionise luxury— by creating sustainable, diamond-alternative fine jewellery not defined by price, but by how beautifully they rival the look of diamonds. From Beverly Hills, this young, female-led brand crafts iconic designs, inspiring you to experience luxury without limits. Visit www.vivianahalil.com and follow @vivianahalilofficial on Instagram.

HEXTER & BAINES

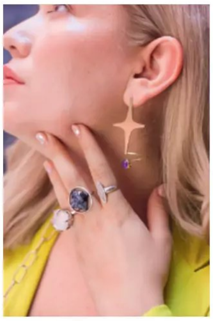
Cronvas is a jewellery watch by Hexter & Baines. The Cronvas watch case and bracelet links draw inspiration from the smooth curves and elegant lines of the classic hourglass shape. Discover more at hexterandbaines.com and @hexterandbaines on Instagram.

SAPFIRE



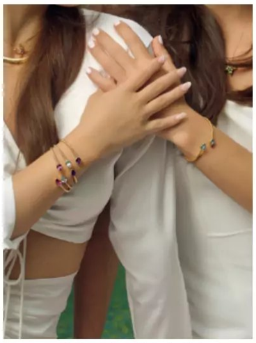
SAPFIRE curates exceptional amber jewellery from some of Europe's top artisan workshops. Each sculptural piece features rare inclusions, shifting colours, and organic textures. Sleek, lightweight, and radiant in summer light, these one-of-a-kind designs blend elegance and natural beauty—perfect from day to night, unrepeatable by design. Visit www.opulentbalticjewellery.co.uk and follow @sapfirejewellery on Instagram.

PAULINA MEZA JEWELRY



Paulina is an outstanding Mexican jewellery designer renowned for blending traditional silversmithing with contemporary aesthetics and techniques. She showcases vibrant gemstones set in silver, gold or even unusual materials such as recycled HDPE plastic. Paulina celebrates her womanhood and merges it with talented craftsmanship, earning her recognition worldwide for innovative and meaningful jewellery designs. Visit www.paulinameza.com and follow her on Instagram @paulinamezajewelry

MAIAGEMS



Maiagems redefines gemstone elegance with modern, wearable sophistication. Each piece carries empowering meaning—infused with chakra symbolism and poetic storytelling. Inspired by a love for design and the goddess Maia, Maiagems evokes effortless everyday luxury. Created for the Maia Muse—spirited, refined, and radiant in her own light. Follow @maiagems.co on Instagram and visit www.maiagems.co

SOPHIE KISSIN JEWELRY

Sophie Kissin Jewelry creates wearable avant-garde art jewellery and bespoke pieces that blend organic, feminine forms with modern design. Sophie dreams up unique pieces with multiple ways to wear and style. All jewellery is handmade in Minneapolis. Shop and enquire about custom work at sophiekissinjewelry.com and follow @sophiekissinjewelry on Instagram.

EARTH TONES

Discover Earth Tones Jewelry, made by hand in Miami. Inspired by natural forms, these unique pieces can be worn individually as a statement piece, or layered for versatile and unique looks. Visit earthtonesmiami.com and follow @earthtonesjewelrymia on Instagram to find out more.

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Beach Chic

1

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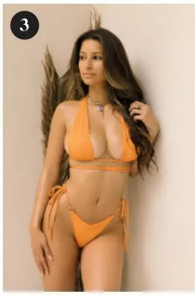
1. SOL OF EOS is an Australian designed luxury swimwear brand that celebrates sustainability, empowerment and positive impact from people to planet. Renowned for their bold prints, sophisticated silhouettes and versatile designs that transition effortlessly from sun drenched seaside to elegant moonlit soirée. Discover more at www.solofeos.com.au and follow along @sol_of_eos on Instagram.

2. From intricately adorned bikinis to romantic floral crochet, ***LECCESE*** is known for handcrafted designs that embody Italian elegance. Created for bold, sophisticated women who effortlessly captivate, each piece is a unique fusion of artistry and individuality. Visit leccesedesigns.com and @leccesedesigns on Instagram.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3. SAMBA SWIM fuses Brazilian heritage with modern luxury to create swimwear that embodies confident sensuality and effortless elegance. With flattering cuts and refined details, each piece is crafted from sustainable, high-quality fabrics — made to move with you and made to last. Discover more at samba-swim.com and @samba.swim on Instagram.

4. LAYLA SWIMWEAR, ethically handmade in Bali and designed in their Ibiza home, fuses sustainable luxury with feminine strength. Shop the Cala Bassa bikini – in white, green, and black – and the vibrant Cala Xarraca, available in black, pink, and yellow. Timeless, bold, and conscious. Shop at www.laylaswimwear.com and @laylaswimwearibiza on Instagram.

5. Made for the bold and curious, ***TIGRILO SWIM*** celebrates Amazonian heritage through its partnership with Shipibo artisans, native to the Peruvian Rainforest. Crafted from buttery-soft recycled fibers, each piece blends function and purpose— designed to accompany you on every adventure. Discover more at tigriloswim.com and follow @tigrilo.swim on Instagram.

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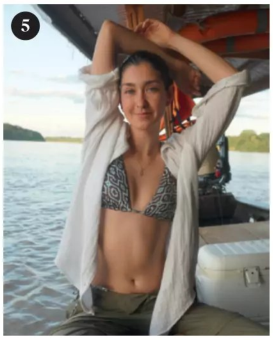
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6. At ***MARQUISE SWIM***, the body takes centre stage. Their ethically made bikinis pair effortlessly with handcrafted clip-on charms - each one created in their atelier to echo the codes of their resort jewellery collection. From sculptural pearls to glistening crystals, every piece is designed to mix, match, and magnify. Swimwear, adorned. Femininity, untamed. Confidence, inevitable. Explore marquiseswim.com and @marquise.swim on Instagram. Shot by: @richardcassius

7. THE INDIVIDUALIST STUDIOS is a sustainable swim and resort wear brand specialising in handmade, limited collections. Each unique, studio-crafted piece blends classic influences with modern design. With a customisable sizing and style system, they ensure that every body type can find their perfect fit. For the individualists who want to stand out without compromising style or sustainability. Explore www.theindividualiststudios.com and @theindividualist.studios on Instagram.

8. ECLIPSED WORLD, a London based swimwear brand, features designs inspired by their founder's passion for astrology, her spirituality and individuality. Valuing health and holistic living, Eclipsed World promotes slow fashion and sustainable production, with high quality garments handmade in Bali by family run suppliers using recycled fabrics like Carvico Vita. Pictured is the best-selling blue evil eye bikini, modelled by @maddietaylorx Visit www.eclipsedworld.com and @eclipsedwrld on Instagram.

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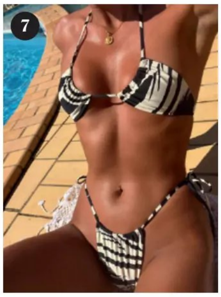
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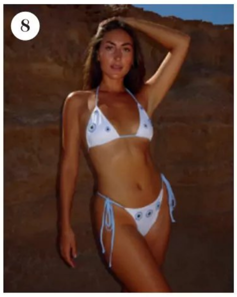
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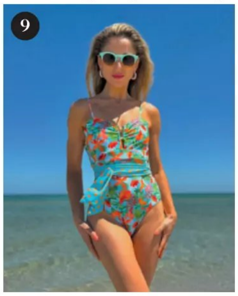
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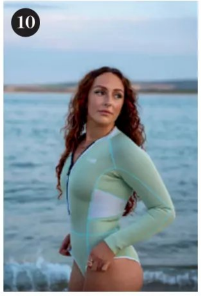
9. ZINZINA SWIMWEAR is a celebration of the modern-day Renaissance woman - confident, fearless, and powerfully self-assured. Designed to empower, their luxury swimwear merges statement style with timeless sophistication. Escape to sun-drenched elegance and effortless glamour at zinzina.com.au and follow @zinzina_swimwear on Instagram.

10. BEACHBUM® was founded on the beaches of Dorset, UK, with a vision to unite adventure enthusiasts who cherish nature, sun, and fun. Dedicated to a relaxed coastal lifestyle, Beachbum® encourages embracing every moment—barbecues, beach walks, and new experiences—while fostering a community that thrives on adventure, balance, and outdoor living. Visit beachbumsup.com and follow @beachbumsup on Instagram.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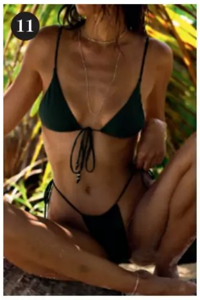
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11. Born between the waves of the Pacific and French elegance, ***SEANAY*** reimagines swimwear as rare, wearable jewellery. Each piece, adorned with Tahitian pearls and keshis, celebrates a free, radiant, and powerful femininity. Crafted in France, the collection embodies a quiet luxury with an ocean-born soul. Discover more at seanay.fr and follow @seanayswim on Instagram.

12. Bold. Timeless. Unmistakably glamorous. ***CHERINA BEACHWEAR*** fuses vintage allure with modern sensuality. Founded in 2019 in Dubai by Chirine Hoss Amaral, the brand crafts statement swimwear, with sculpted silhouettes, luxe textures and a signature edge that empowers as much as it enchants. Each piece is designed to celebrate feminine energy, elevating beachwear into a personal expression of strength and beauty. Visit cherinabeachwear.com and @cherina_beachwear on Instagram.

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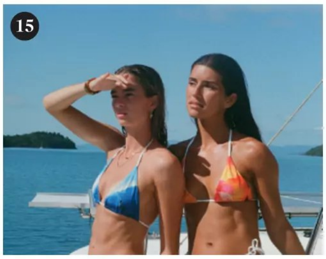
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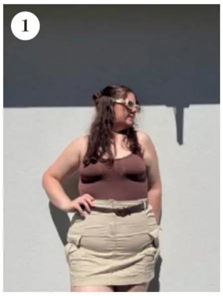
13. JULE SWIM. Elegant design. Exceptional fit. Stun in their signature range of luminous "Jule Tones"- rich, radiant shades that exude calm confidence. Add water, sun and their matching mesh sarongs for a sophisticated monochromatic look that transitions seamlessly from poolside to resort. Jule Swim is thoughtfully made and designed in Austin, TX by ballerina-founded Jule Dancewear. Explore www.juledancewear.com/swim and @juledancewear or @jule.swim on Instagram.

14. Discover ***SUSY & LILY*** — a swimwear label focused on exceptional fit and premium sustainable fabrics. Designed for women who value comfort, style, and quality. Each bikini is made to flatter and last. Explore the collection at susyandlily.co.nz and follow them on Instagram @susyandlily

15. LOONEY SWIM is where art meets the ocean. Each unique piece begins as an original oil painting by artist Alice Kidd, which is then printed on sustainable fabric and sewn to order in Melbourne. It started with one painted bikini, for girls who find freedom in the sea and self-expression in the details. Limited, local, just a little Looney. Explore this extraordinary brand at www.looneyswim.com.au and @looneyswim on Instagram.

Style Set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1. *BARE NEW ZEALAND*'s viral Bare bodysuit helps to smooth in all the right places— no digging, just everyday comfort. Available in XS–4XL. Shop now at www.barenewzealand.com and get 10% off with code VOGUE10 (expires 15/07/25). Follow @barenewzealand on Instagram.

2. *MADELEINE TREHEARNE* presents "Craftsmen's Gems"- exceptional all embroidered Jali shawls, here shown in citrus yellow and rose pink, each with trails of relaxed flowers and branches in sunshine colours - deeper pinks, oranges and white. Enjoy great design – the inspirational hand weaving and embroidery of Kashmir- individual pure pashmina cashmere shawls created exclusively by Madeleine and her small team, pioneers of the Kashmir shawl renaissance. Keen to support local communities, they obtain their shawls from renewable, ethically produced sources in Kashmir. They send shawls all over the world. See the full collection at 20 New End Square London NW3 1LN or call for a brochure +44(0) 2074356310, Madeleine's mobile: +44(0) 7748651655, visit www.trehearneandbrar.com or follow them on Instagram @madeleinetrehearne or email mads@madeleinetrehearne.co.uk

3

3. When craftsmanship and conscience meet, beauty is inevitable. At ***MIZI ATELIER***, elegance is in every element, and conscious living is built into each creation. True refinement lives in the details, and every texture and thread is an invitation to a finer, deeper and more sustainable form of beauty. Explore www.miziatelier.com and @miziatelier on Instagram.

4. *FUNDAE* presents eco-chic Italian luxury footwear, with a signature "Fun-of-a-Kind" experience designed to inspire and celebrate individuality. Revolutionising sustainable fashion with bold, beautiful, colourful high style from truly vegan plant-based and recycled materials. Sprinkling limitless looks for every occasion and treats for your feet. Visit www.fundae.com and @fundaesoles on Instagram.

5. *KIARA LUNA* crafts heirloom-quality sunglasses and handbags in limited quantities, combining exceptional materials with timeless design. As a women-operated business, they partner with certified ethical manufacturers to create pieces that empower everyday women with confidence and style. Each piece is a legacy piece meant to be cherished for generations. Explore kiaralunany.com and @kiaralunany on Instagram.

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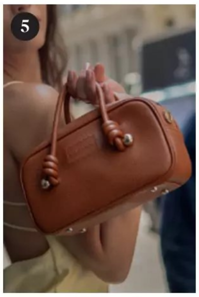
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6. *MOORE* is a modern, elevated street fashion brand showcasing unique fabrications and gender-neutral designs. The SS25 collection inspired "Light Between", a beautiful depiction of what it means to feel the weight of the darkness while searching for the light. Film and poem by @roblaterra on Instagram. Explore wearmoore.com and @moore_nyc on Instagram.

7. Introducing ***RAG AND DOLL***, a distinguished English brand specialising in bespoke occasion wear for women. Renowned for its high quality fabrics and signature designs, Rag and Doll embodies timeless elegance and craftsmanship. Founded in 2013 by best friends and entrepreneurs Philippa and Jessica, the brand creates effortlessly sophisticated pieces that every woman aspires to own. Explore the collection at raganddoll.co.uk and follow @raganddoll on Instagram.

8. *WILLOW BEAN* creates one-of-a-kind, limited-edition pieces, authentically handmade in designer Jennie Fear's Philadelphia studio. Fierce yet feminine, her ideal client values individuality and craftsmanship. Each design is made to order, reflecting bold elegance. Discover more at www.willowbeanstudio.com and on Instagram @willowbeanstudio

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9. *IVORY SHEEP* crafts vintage-inspired, ethereal garments for dreamers, romantics, and rebels. This slow fashion brand designs all pieces in-house, producing heirloom-quality clothing in inclusive sizes XXS-7X through ethical, small-batch manufacturing. Their limited-edition collections embody conscious craftsmanship with timeless appeal. Explore ivorysheep.com and @ivorysheepclothing on Instagram.

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10. *FJK BY FARAH KADHIMI* is a sustainable luxury womenswear label. Each piece is made-to-order in London by skilled artisans, using only natural fabrics. At FJK, women are the inspiration, premium craftsmanship is the signature. With timeless silhouettes, FJK designs are created to be worn, loved, and passed on with pride. Visit www.farahkadhimi.com and @farahkadhimi on Instagram.

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11. *TIZZY LOVES* a UK brand by Tiziana Camilleri, brings limited-edition handmade Italian leather goods from Massimo Palomba and fragrances from Culti Milano. Rooted in sustainable craftsmanship and Italian heritage, Tizzy Loves provides elegant, exclusive and timeless luxury pieces. Enjoy 10% off on their leather goods, exclusive to Vogue, with code VOGUE10 at tizzyloves.com (expires 31/08/25), and follow @tizzyloves on Instagram.

12. New York-born ***RICH RADIQS*** is a luxury womenswear brand crafting timeless pieces with elegance and strength. Utilising premium natural materials and exquisite techniques, they offer comfortable, high-end designs and bespoke services. Embodying a "Bold, Radiant, and Free" spirit, the brand balances tension and tranquility, celebrating powerful femininity. Discover more at richradiqs.com and follow @richradiqs on Instagram.

13. *GIRLS ONLY* is an Australian fashion brand designed by a Barcelona-born creative, launched in December 2024. Specialising in going-out looks—think dresses, sets, and modern bridal—several styles have already sold out. Worn by Aussie it-girls and European style muses, Girls Only captures the best of both worlds: European simplicity and elegance, fused with Australian boldness and confidence. Visit girlsonlyofficial.com and follow @girlsonlyofficial_ on Instagram.

14. *KAT & CACAO*'s Bali-made kimonos blend sustainability with comfort and elegance. Handwoven from vegan ramie silk and blessed by a Balinese healer, each piece comes with a cacao gift. Whether at home, at a party, or by the beach, discover all their kimonos at www.katandcacao.com and @katandcacao on Instagram.

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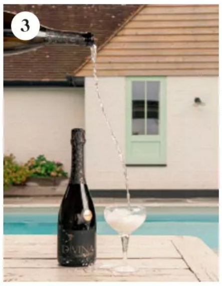
Vogue's Summer Serves



1. From across the pond, ***GYPSY SPIRITS*** has officially landed in the UK, introducing a bold new era of award-winning premium spirits that are gluten-free, non-GMO and distilled seven times for clarity of flavour. With a reputation for exceptional quality, unparalleled smoothness, and adventurous spirit, Gypsy Spirits is redefining what it means to drink premium. Visit gypsyspirits.co.uk and @gypsyspiritsuk on Instagram.

2. ***MADRE*** is redefining the art of made-to-order baking. Founded by Argentine-born Vicky & Lelu, their London-based atelier honours both places they call home, blending bold Argentinian flavours with European influences. Every Saturday morning, they release limited batches of slow-fermented pastries and breads - freshly crafted, never rushed. Orders close Wednesday, but sell out fast. Explore www.madrebakers.co.uk and @madrebakers on Instagram.

3. ***DIVINA*** is a pioneering, female-inspired wine brand, created from the feedback of over 600 women across London. A 6% proof, lighter and sweeter twist on sparkling wine, Divina is made for those who value delicious, refined choices that never compromise on quality. Explore www.divinawines.com and @divina.six.percent on Instagram.

4
Panela
CHOCOLATE CHIP
Ready-to-Bake

5
BLOODY MARY

6
BOTANEG
BOTANEG

4. Whether you're a star baker or baking your first batch, you deserve unforgettable cookies. ***PANELA BAKERY*** makes ready-to-bake, frozen dough, so you can enjoy warm cookies anytime. They use high-quality, ethically sourced ingredients - organic and regenerative where possible. Made with care, baked from frozen, always warm - because that's how cookies should be. Explore www.panelabakery.co.uk and @panela_bakery on Instagram.

5. Indulge in the fiery allure of ***MARY MARY***, where you'll discover downright audacious and wondrously moreish premixed Bloody Marys blended to boozy perfection. Dreamt up in London, with two heat levels to choose from, these handcrafted, small-batch serves combine some of the finest British ingredients to create a tomatoey soirée for your tastebuds, and a fiery kick for any occasion. Whether you're quietly curious or a fierce enthusiast, these will deliver an unforgettable flavour that's truly unruly. Explore www.drink-marymary.com and @drink.marymary on Instagram.

6. ***BOTANEG***, winner at the 2025 Gin Guide Awards, is for discerning consumers who seek out premium spirits and refined flavours. This extraordinary Welsh gin has been designed to deliver a luxurious sensory experience, from the first visual impact to the delicately balanced botanical flavour gracing each pour. Botaneg invites you to "savour sophistication in every sip", and highlights the beauty of Welsh craftsmanship with a commitment to quality, heritage, and innovation. Explore www.botaneg.com and @botanegltd on Instagram.

7. ***HAUS OF BABYLON*** is a premium non-alcoholic drinks brand born in Dubai. Creating beverages for adults with refined palates that want an elevated drinking experience without alcohol, using an artisanal, small-batch approach. From spritzes to negronis, with inspiration from Middle Eastern ingredients and a desire for elegance, Haus of Babylon is an ode to beautiful places and cherished moments. Explore www.hausofbabylon.com and @haus.of.babylon on Instagram.

8. ***THIS IS SKINNY*** understands that drinking alcohol may not align with your health or fitness goals, but believes that life can still be a party. They have produced a range of low-calorie cocktails that are only 65 calories or below per can, and have no added sugars. Made with no artificial colours or preservatives, and catering to both vegan and gluten-free diets with a low carbohydrate count. Their Passion Martini with Strawberry will be a go-to drink as you glam up for your night ahead. Explore thisisskinny.co.uk and @thisisskinny_cocktails on Instagram.

9. ***PROPIO*** is a premium non-alcoholic wine brand crafted from real wine, rather than grape juice, for a refined, elevated experience. Founded by Cassi Davis and Mikaela Funn, Propio is a woman-owned brand redefining what celebration looks like. With bold flavour, sophisticated design, and a liberating pour, it's made for those who choose to drink differently. Celebrate freely with drinkpropio.com and @drinkpropio on Instagram.

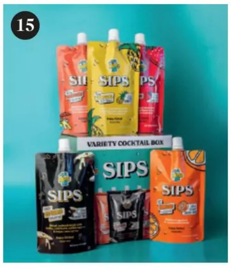
12
SOCIETY DE LA RASSI

10. Experience the excellence of ***EVIELOU***'s award-winning premium spiced rum. Distilled in small batches and crafted with exotic spices, it reveals rich notes of vanilla, cinnamon, and caramel. Smooth, complex, and full of character, it's perfect for sipping or mixing - a best-seller that defines distinctive flavour. Explore www.evielou.co and @evielou.co on Instagram.

11. ***WEBSTER'S TEA***, based in New Zealand, offers premium organic loose leaf teas made with only the finest ingredients. Known for their uncompromising approach to quality, each blend is thoughtfully created for exceptional depth and flavour. A refreshing choice for the warmer months, Webster's summer teas are ideal served cold-brewed – a simple, elegant way to help you stay cool. Explore www.websterstea.com and @websters.tea on Instagram.

12. ***SOCIETY DE LA RASSI*** is a luxury de-alcoholised sparkling wine crafted from 100% Vintage Chardonnay. A wine for new-age soirées and noteworthy characters, their Neue Brut beckons to the bold. Each sip is a salute to the unexpected, to chance encounters, and connections made. Society De La Rassi is more than a beverage - it's an invitation. Explore societydelarassi.com and @societydelarassi on Instagram.

14
the honey thief
the honey thief



13. ***HI FOODS*** is a new, innovative company making pantry essentials that aim to support the female cycle. Inspired by founder, Maria Miracle's, health struggles, HI Foods has launched with four blends of its artisanal-grade Honey Almond Butter, each formulated with the aim to support the natural hormonal intelligence of the female body and monthly cycle. Packaged in portable, recyclable pouches, HI Foods products are made with carefully sourced, whole-food ingredients. Learn more at www.hifoods.co.uk and @hormonalintelligence on Instagram.

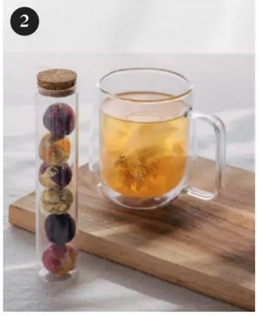
14. Based in Australia's Southern Highlands, ***THE HONEY THIEF*** makes award-winning honey to elevate your dishes and drinks. They transform pure honey into barista-quality blends that you can enjoy at home. Including Chai, Vanilla Bean and Matcha fusions, they have fourteen flavours that are ethically produced in small batches, using premium sustainable packaging. Visit www.thehoneythief.com and @thehoneythief.official on Instagram.

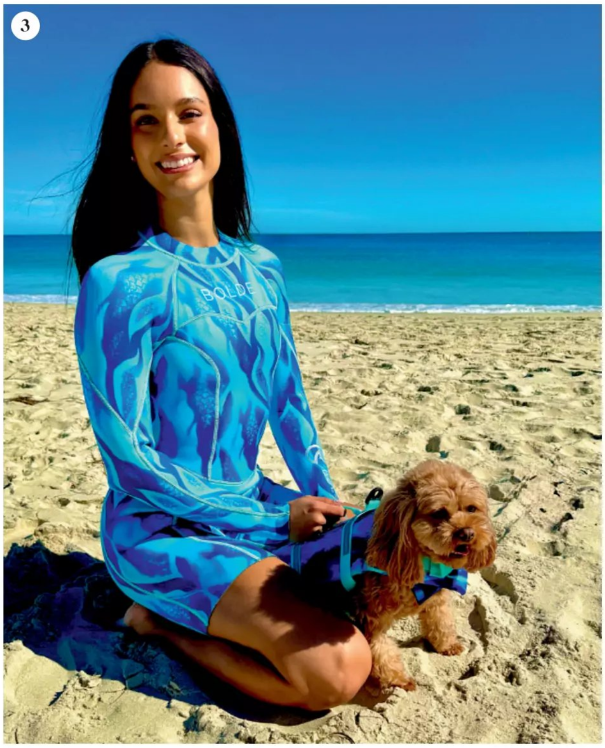
15. Elevate your drinks game with ***WAVEY ICE***, creators of boldly stylish alcoholic ice pops and impeccably crafted ready-to-drink cocktails. Designed for those who appreciate quality as much as aesthetics, each innovative flavour effortlessly blends sophistication with a spirited edge. Whether hosting or unwinding, redefine your next occasion. Explore the collection at www.waveyice.com and @waveyice on Instagram.

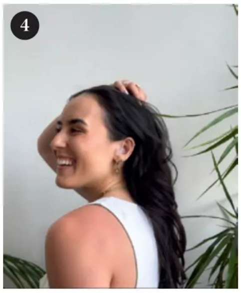
16. ***CYDNO TEA*** aims to support a better night of rest with their range of herbal 'Sleepy Teas', including their flagship Passionflower Tea, which aims to improve sleep quality. Sourced to the highest standard with natural ingredients, and stored in plastic-free packaging, Cydno's teas are ideal for your evening relaxation ritual. Explore cydno.co.uk and @cydno_tea on Instagram.

Rise and Shine

1
KIKI & GREEN







1. Discover ***KIKI & GREEN***'s premium reusable period pads — thoughtfully designed by a woman redefining period care. Crafted with toxin-free bamboo charcoal that is designed to offer exceptional absorbency, all-day comfort, and odour control. Feel good in your body, every cycle. Enjoy 10% off with code KGTRIBE10 (expires 15/07/25). Visit www.kikiandgreen.com Instagram: @kikiandgreen

2. Turn tea time into a moment of calm with The Blooming Tea Gift Set by ***BETTER TEA CO***. Each hand-sewn tea ball unfurls into a beautiful, blossoming display as it steeps, creating a mindful ritual in every cup. Organic and plastic free, these tea balls don't require a teabag or infuser – just hot water and a moment to breathe. Perfect for gifting or as a thoughtful addition to your own daily ritual. Enjoy 15% off with code VOGUE15 (expires 30/09/25) at www.bettertea.co and follow @betterteaco on Instagram.

3. BOLDE has quickly gained recognition as a trusted and distinctive choice for water women across the globe. Founded by shark biologist Amanda Elizabeth, BOLDE redefines women's wetsuits with premium, eco-conscious materials, and ocean-inspired designs. The best part? Now your best friend can be a part of the fun as well, with their matching dog life jackets - designed to complement their iconic women's wetsuits. Made with the same prints and premium quality, because BOLDE adventures were meant to be shared. Wetsuits available in sizes 6-20. Visit boldewetsuits.com and follow @boldewetsuits on Instagram.

4. SOUNDBLOC is a UK-based earplug brand with the aim to enhance personal well-being through superior noise protection. Designed with comfort in mind, Soundbloc earplugs are designed to help reduce harmful noise exposure while promoting tranquility in today's bustling world. Designed for sleep, focus, and relaxation, Soundbloc helps to support a healthier, more balanced lifestyle. Visit www.soundbloc.co.uk and @soundbloc_earplugs on Instagram and TikTok.

5. At ***PAOPAO ESSENTIALS***, they believe the menstrual cycle is one of the most essential and powerful aspects of womanhood – and a central inspiration behind everything they create. By blending natural ingredients with holistic self-care, their products are designed to gently support women through every phase of their cycle, helping them to live in balance, connection with themselves, and authenticity. Visit www.paopao-essentials.de and follow @paopao.essentials on Instagram.

Adventures Ahead

1. MAMBA MAMMAS brings gentle, natural skincare to your little one from day one. Founded by UK Registered Midwife Tatiana Martinez, their products are UK-made, safe from birth, and crafted with midwife-approved ingredients. Available on Amazon. Learn more at www.mambamammas.com and follow @mambamammas on Instagram.

2. Award-winning children's brand, ***THE FAIRYTALE WARDROBE*** is the home of luxury fancy dress clothes for both girls and boys. Their costumes are designed in the UK and are made from beautiful fabrics. Described as 'haute couture in miniature' they help add extra magic to your child's day. Visit www.thefairytalewardrobe.co.uk and follow @thefairytalewardrobe on Instagram.

3. SALTED PHOTOGRAPHY is a renowned family photographer and dress designer based in Holland, travelling worldwide. Her exquisite eye for light and connection is what defines her as a photographer. Combined with her elegant style she turns motherhood into a piece of art. See more at salted.photography and follow @salted.photography on Instagram.

4. Handwoven with love, ***BEBE BASK*** offers heirloom-quality baskets for modern families. From elegant changing baskets to versatile nappy caddies and everyday home essentials, each piece is carefully crafted by artisans using sustainable materials. Designed to be cherished for generations, the timeless collection blends beauty, function, and ethical craftsmanship. Visit bebebask.com and @bebebask on Instagram.

5. BAMBUU BABY offers luxuriously soft bamboo essentials for little ones. Their muslins, swaddles, blankets, and bedding are hypoallergenic, breathable, and feel gentle on delicate skin. Featuring hand-painted watercolour prints and high-quality fabric, each piece combines artistry and care - timeless treasures for your baby's precious beginnings. Visit www.bambuubaby.co.uk and follow @bambuu.baby on Instagram.

6. Designed for travel. Perfect for every day. ***HUDDO CO***'s Anywhere Backpack is thoughtfully designed using premium recycled materials and apple skin leather. It features travel friendly functionality such as revolutionary access with customisable shelving, easy access wipes dispenser, insulated food pocket, waterproof and odourproof compartment for soiled items, unisex design and more! Visit www.huddoco.com Instagram: @huddo_co

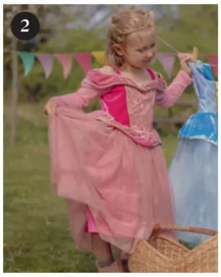
7. SUN & DAUGHTER is an Australia-based, all-natural 100% mineral sunscreen brand. Their SPF50+ sunscreen is free of chemical UV filters and fragrance and is suitable for eczema-prone skin, pregnant and nursing mothers, and babies over six months. Visit www.sunanddaughter.com.au and follow @sunanddaughter_ on Instagram.

8. HEGEN was founded in Singapore in 2015 by Yvon Bock, whose aim was to modernise breastfeeding. Their ergonomic Sqround bottles feature an innovative, patented no-screw-thread closure—the Hegen Press-to-Close, Twist-to-Open™ (PCTO™) design for easy use. Hegen champions breastfeeding and aims to protect breastmilk integrity whilst simplifying expressing, storing, and feeding. Visit www.hegen.com and follow @hegen on Instagram.

9. Enchanting cot mobiles, imaginative pretend play items, and baby room décor – every piece at ***NIVAS*** is as unique as the artisan who crafts it. Handmade from ethically sourced wool felt at a second-generation women's co-op in Nepal. Save 20% with code "VOGUE20" (expires 08/08/2025) at nivascollection.com and follow on Instagram @nivascollection

10. KENTE KIDS brings African culture and colour to the newbies of the world! Bringing bright and bold accessories with a unique heritage, see their bandana bibs, breastfeeding covers, bamboo hooded towels (featured), and more at kentekidsuk.com Use code VOGUE10 for a 10% discount, valid until the 31/07/25. Follow @KenteKidsUK on Instagram.

1
Baby Sunflower Body Oil



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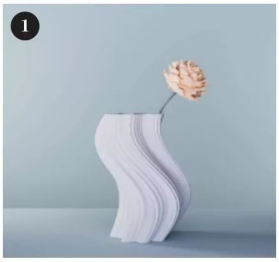
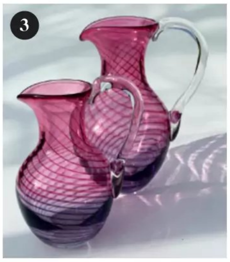
A Vogue Abode

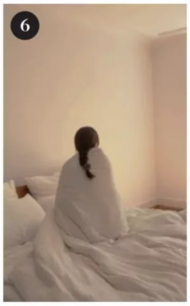




1. AUURA is a design brand that blends minimalism with mindful luxury. Specialising in next-generation vases, lamps, and décor, each piece is created from organic and recycled materials using innovative technologies, combining elegance and sustainability—perfectly suited for modern living. Explore more at www.aura3d.eu and follow @aura3d_official on Instagram.

2. BUHN is a premium refillable candle brand committed to making luxury both accessible and sustainable. Their vegan, hand-poured candles are made from 100% soy wax and designed for easy refills, reducing waste and offering a more eco-friendly alternative to traditional candles. Visit buhn.co.uk and follow @buhnbabybuhn on Instagram and TikTok.

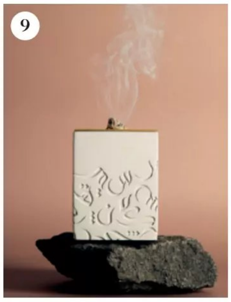
3. E&M GLASS. Each Feather Jug is handblown to order in their North Wales studio, where bold Ruby & Amethyst tones are layered using traditional techniques. Linear threads of colour trace the form—an expressive fusion of contemporary design and time-honoured skill. Visit www.emglass.co.uk and follow @emglass on Instagram.



4. SAPPHIRE SUITCASES is redefining modern travel with precision-built recycled aluminium luggage. Designed in Copenhagen and shaped by a love of timeless design, each piece is a statement in motion - elegant, quiet, and built to last a lifetime. Discover more at @sapphiresuitcases on Instagram and sapphiresuitcases.com

5. ESTI LIVING unites scent and style through handcrafted candles, diffusers and decor enriched with gemstones. Thoughtfully composed in form and finish, each piece settles effortlessly into the home, bringing a captivating aroma and quiet elegance to every space. Visit estiliving.com and follow @estiliving on Instagram.

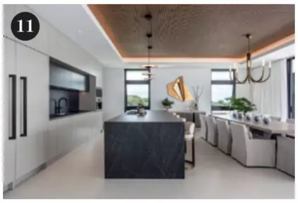
6. Sustainable bedsheets from ***BHOME***. The Swiss company innovates with sheets made from 100% Tencel™ fibres with a dreamy muslin touch. These materials are naturally hypoallergenic, antibacterial, and moisture-wicking, providing an effortlessly luxurious and restful sleep. Thoughtfully designed in Switzerland and made in Portugal, with a true commitment to and focus on sustainability and eco-consciousness. Visit bhomeswitzerland.com and follow @bhomebedding on Instagram.



7. At ***I&CO***, creative director Isabel Lankester designs bold, playful, and timeless furniture in-house. Their handcrafted pieces combine classic silhouettes with modern details, blending English tradition and contemporary style. Each design is fluid, tactile, and meticulously finished. Photo by Freya Llewellyn-Smith. Discover more at www.isabeland.co and @isabeland.co on Instagram.

8. Inspired by the serene elegance of the French Riviera, Cap-Ferrat is ***PIZTOLA***'s first outdoor collection. With clean, minimal lines echoing the region's architecture, it marks a new chapter—refining materials and finishes to elevate craftsmanship and embrace timeless sophistication in outdoor living. Visit piztola.com and follow @_piztola on Instagram.

9. THE OPULENT is a British luxury homeware brand rooted in Arabic heritage. Celebrated for its calligraphy-engraved, multipurpose vessels, each piece merges traditional artistry with modern sophistication. Crafted from concrete, they embody cultural richness and timeless elegance—offering versatile design with deep meaning. Visit theopulent.co.uk and follow @theopulentuk on Instagram.

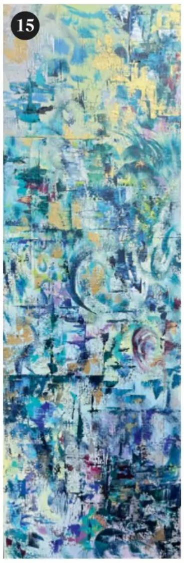


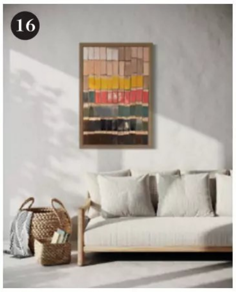
10. Music lovers deserve ***WESTERN ACOUSTICS***' Type 2 speaker. Custom-crafted in Brooklyn, New York, its timeless design and high-fidelity audio infuse your home with chic comfort. Personalise your piece with your choice of grille colour. Transform your listening experience at western-acoustics.com and follow @westernacoustics on Instagram.

11. CHANTELLE ALICIA specialises in minimalist luxury interiors and is based in Barbados. CAID carefully curates stunning yet calming environments that one can relax in with a glass of champagne while enjoying the beautiful atmosphere of the island. Visit www.chantellealicia.com and follow @chantellealicia.design on Instagram.

12. The Bubbles Panel by ***NADER GAMMAS*** is a wall light inspired by the natural terrain where coffee is grown; its glass represents the first image of a pressed coffee. Materials used are patinated brass and custom made slumped glass. To enquire, visit nadergammas.com and follow @nader_gammas on Instagram. Representation by studiotwentyseven.com

13. SOMEWHERE SOMEPLACE by John Radtke is a carefully curated design gallery based in Santa Fe. A furniture dealer of 10 years, Radtke focuses on one of a kind objects. Featured: Alexandre Hogue Art Shipping Crate, 1930s USA. Visit somewheresomeplace.shop and follow @somewheresomeplaceshop on Instagram.





14. MAISON LEEA's I-st Armchairs, originally created for a yacht seating area and also exhibited at TEFAF, bring definition to the reading room of this private residence. Their precise geometry and proportions are complemented by The Faire&Square Table, creating a fusion of forms and finishes, that highlight Maison Leea's expertise in executing furniture and bespoke projects. Visit maisonleea.com and follow @maison_leea on Instagram.

15. VERONIQUE K. JONASSEN is a Hong Kong-based artist. Pictured is "Summer Retreat", the calm, peace and serenity one experiences once the worst is over, and one is finally allowed to rest, smell the flowers and linger in a summer garden full of light. Discover more at www.veroniquejonassen.com and follow @vkj__art on Instagram.

16. FELICITY ROWBOTHAM is a 27-year-old award-winning oil painter and ceramicist whose work brings refined vibrancy to exceptional interiors. Celebrated for her bold use of terracottas, oranges, and pinks, each bespoke piece is designed to elevate luxury homes, hotels, and curated spaces. Discover more at felicitycressidarowbotham.com and follow @felicitycressidarowbotham on Instagram.

17. BEDSPOKE is a family-run furniture maker with a flair for the bespoke. For over a decade they have been crafting beautifully made-to-measure pieces that blend timeless design with everyday comfort. Whether you're eyeing one of their signature styles or dreaming up something entirely your own, they bring your vision to life using fine materials and clever, cutting-edge craftsmanship for a sensible price. Visit bedspoke.co.uk and follow @bedspoke.london on Instagram.

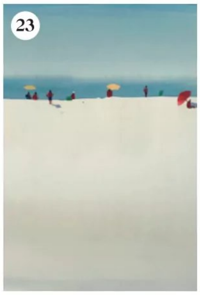
18. Share the Light with ***VETA NELL***, an Austin based purveyor of hand-made luxury candles and gifts. Experience light, colour, and scent with candles blended from soft coconut wax and fine essential oils. Veta Nell's re-usable signature square glassware in a range of hues is ideal as decor or as a lasting gift. Veta Nell's mission is to provide sustainable jobs for at-risk women. Visit vetanell.com and follow @veta.nell on Instagram.

19. *CLIODHNA DOHERTY*'s work delves into the human experience, deeply intertwined with Ireland's landscapes and cultural heritage. It explores themes of identity, resilience, and the connection to place, particularly through the feminine form. By blending emotion with nature, Cliodhna's pieces create a dialogue between tradition and innovation, celebrating transformation and the beauty of the imperfect. Visit cliodhnabycliodhna.com and follow @byclìodhna on Instagram.

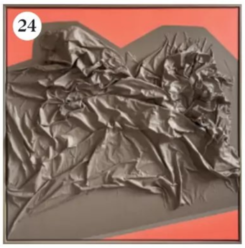
20. Handcrafted in Tbilisi using domestic walnut, the 'Drop' Table by ***IDAAF ARCHITECTS*** combines traditional craftsmanship with the contemporary language of sculptural design. Each part of the table is carefully cut from a massive piece of walnut by a carpenter, ensuring that each piece is unique and individually textured. Visit www.idaafarchitects.com and follow @idaafarchitects on Instagram.

21. NYC brand ***LYNEN*** reinvents the once boring tea towel. Playful yet refined, and each one impeccably embroidered, Lynen tea towels are the perfect accessory to dress up your oven door or bar cart. These are "Not Your Granny's Tea Towels". Explore the collection at shoplynen.com and follow @shoplynen on Instagram.

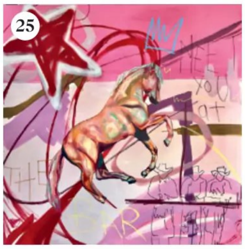
22. *THE RELIQUARY* is a Los Angeles based workshop with a vision to preserve and present old-world techniques and motifs to the current world of design in new ways. Works are created on a limited, made to order basis by master craftsmen in California. Visit thereliquary.co and follow @thereliquary.co on Instagram.



23. Award-winning artist ***NÚRIA RIERA*** paints serene works inspired by the sea and the everyday, inviting a pause to cherish the beauty of the mundane amid a fast-paced world. Visit nuriariera.com and follow @nuriariera_art on Instagram.



24. *JESSICA EICHINGER*, an artist based in Munich, crafts distinctive artworks by blending modern techniques with a three-dimensional approach. Through the use of acrylic paints, innovative colour combinations, and fabric, she creates striking textures and visual effects. Her aim is to make a bold statement with her pieces, enhancing spaces and fostering a harmonious ambiance. Discover more at www.artbyjessicaeichinger.de or follow her on Instagram @artbyjessicaeichinger



25. *HARRIET BUTLER* transforms spaces with her dynamic large-scale abstracts, blending childlike spontaneity with sophisticated storytelling. A Liverpool John Moores Fine Art graduate with five years of professional exhibition experience, Butler's latest cowboy-themed collection injects a party vibe into the home. Pictured: 'Meet You At The Bar'. Visit www.harrietbutlerdesigns.com and follow @harrietbtlrdesigns on Instagram.

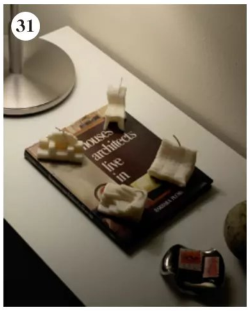
26. A home decor wall art brand - turning plain walls into something that lifts you the moment you walk in. With the world feeling heavy, ***ALICE & SILHOUETTES*** was made to do the opposite. Every piece is printed to order in a London studio using 100% recycled materials sourced in the UK on heavyweight luxe paper, combining sustainability with a sense of everyday luxury. Discover more at aliceandsilhouettes.com and follow @aliceandsilhouettes on Instagram.

27. *POMPEII HOME* is a New Zealand-based design studio that blends sculptural form with sensory experience. Alongside their bespoke marble furniture and objects, they offer a refined home scent collection—crafted to elevate the rituals of daily life. Visit www.pompeiihome.co and follow @pompeii_home_ on Instagram.

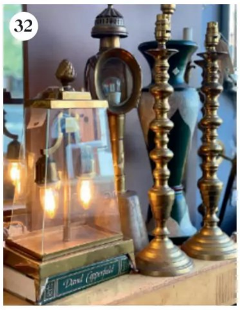
28. G Lamp by ***CAL SUMMERS*** in patinated steel. A British designer and maker now based in NYC, Summers crafts objects and furniture that explore the dialogue between weight and lightness, rawness and refinement, with a deep appreciation for materials. Discover more at calsummers.net and follow @calsummers on Instagram.

29. *AURUM HOME* is luxury furniture brand with studio collections that focus on bespoke works for consumers and trade projects. Working with luxury materials to create furniture, accents, and hardware of singular nature to elevate residential, commercial and corporate settings. Discover more at www.aurumhome.co and follow @aurumhomeinteriors on Instagram.

30. *AESTHEVORE* fuses a simple design philosophy with an enthusiasm for entertaining. Natural stone and metal is thoughtfully shaped in modern minimalist design, for tableware that seamlessly merges form and function. Inspired by ancient columns, the double-walled Vita steel collection glows with timeless grace and is designed to preserve your food's temperature. Visit aesthevore.com and follow @aesthevore on Instagram.



31. *MOODY* is a creative studio founded by multidisciplinary Laotian artist Trisha Xaybanha, a Portland, Oregon native. Driven by a passion for design, architecture, and candle making, Moody offers a nostalgic collection of one-of-a-kind, hand-poured candles. Each piece is crafted using vegan soy wax blends, inspired by iconic furniture silhouettes into candle form. Moody brings together furniture enthusiasts and tastemakers who appreciate thoughtful craftsmanship and timeless design. Visit www.moodybysha.com and follow @moodybysha on Instagram.



32. *FIAT LUX CHANDELIERS* house an on-site workshop boasting over 35 years of invaluable experience. Their skilled technicians are available for booking, offering expertise to address all your lighting needs, including installations, repairs and the meticulous cleaning of light fixtures. Visit www.fiatluxchandeliers.com and follow @fiatluxchandeliers on Instagram.

33. Bask in effortless summer style with the Gitano, ***O***'s signature piece crafted from ultra-soft organic cotton and dyed with natural pigments. Light, breathable, and endlessly versatile, it's designed for those who chase sunshine and simplicity while treading lightly on the planet. Conscious luxury made for slow living and everyday ease. Visit www.o-valle.com and follow @o.valle.boutique on Instagram.

34. *MICHELLE MORTON* is an Australian artist known for her handmade ceramics that honour coastal textures and ritual. From oyster platters to one-of-a-kind vessels, her pieces encourage a slower, more intentional way of living. Visit michellemorton.studio and follow @michellemorton.studio on Instagram.

35. *KATIE LINDQUIST INTERIORS* blends the wit and whimsy of English country homes with the playful sophistication of her Manhattan training. Her keen eye for art and antique curation inspires delightfully eclectic interiors, where effervescent colour and pattern, a chic mix of modern and traditional, and a dash of nostalgia find joyful residence. Photography by Julia D'Agostino. Visit www.katie-lindquist.com and follow @katielindquistinteriors on Instagram.

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Golden Hour Glam

1

2

3

1. KINVARA's Elemental Exfoliating Powder is designed to help buff away dead skin cells and contains seaweed, Vitamin C, and niacinamide. This microbead-free, waterless exfoliator activates on contact, to reveal the look of radiant skin. Eco-conscious, feels gentle and suitable for all skin types. Summer glow, simplified. Visit www.kinvaraskincare.com and follow @kinvaraskincare on Instagram.

2. CORAIL PARIS works to enhance the natural beauty of hair with innovative care products that aim to combine effectiveness and natural ingredients. Nature and science come together in every formula, helping to deliver the look of shine and the feeling of softness to wavy, curly and coily hair. Discover more at corail-paris.com and @corail_paris on Instagram.

3. KONJO BEAUTY aims to leave your skin feeling hydrated and appearing radiant. Created for every skin type, each formula is designed to elevate your skin with intention and care—refined in approach, rich in purpose, and made to reveal your natural-looking glow. Visit www.konjobeauty.com and follow @konjobeauty on Instagram.

4. Miracle Skin Transformation by **COSMETIC CONSULT** is an effortless addition to your nightly skincare routine, designed to target the look of fine lines, pigmentation, acne, and uneven texture. Created by skin expert, Ashley Stobart - this clinic-grade treatment aims to deliver visible, professional-level results at home, offering the feeling of a luxury facial without compromising on efficacy. Discover more at thecosmeticconsult.co.uk and follow @cosmeticconsultofficial on Instagram.

4

COSMETIC CONSULT

5

6

5. Anti-Gravity Face Serum by **BEE FACTOR** contains peptides, botanical ferments and D-Panthenol. The lightweight formula helps to leave tired skin feeling smooth and revitalised. Clinically inspired and naturally formulated in Greece, it aims to leave you with skin that has a glowing appearance. Visit beefactor.gr and follow @bee_factor on Instagram.

6. ONEBEAUTY® is revolutionising at-home skincare with its advanced technology and personalised approach. With a dedicated team of over 100 experts and more than 30 patents, the brand offers cutting-edge devices tailored to your unique needs. Their CRYSTAL LED device combines four light therapies. It aims to target the appearance of wrinkles, for a radiant-looking result. Effortlessly luxurious and tailored to your skin, Onebeauty® is truly ahead of its time and the future of beauty at home. Visit www.onebeautytech.com and follow @onebeautytech on Instagram.

7

SACRED GLOW SERUM
SACRED SERUM

8

GLOW + FIRM
BODY CREAM
NT WT. 6fl oz | 177.44mL
Alstelle

9

7. SACRED RITUEL's Sacred Serum & Sacred Glow Serum are the ultimate duo containing organic plant ingredients. Together they work to transform your skin into its most luminous, healthy-looking state. Pure. Potent. Unforgettable. Your ritual begins now. Use code VOGUE25 for 25% off at www.sacredrituel.com (expires 15/07/25) and follow @sacredrituel on Instagram.

8. At **ALSTELLE**, their products are carefully crafted to help promote the look of healthy, glowing skin while making a positive impact on the environment. With every purchase, a donation is made to environmentally focused charities, allowing their customers to help support causes with every skincare routine. Join their mission to embrace eco-consciousness and make a difference for the planet. Visit www.alstelle.com and @alstelle_official on Instagram.

9. Renowned for blending luxury with innovation, **SKINOVATIONLAB®** is a London-based beauty brand revolutionising at-home skincare. Muse 3D RF 430C is the epitome of high-tech skincare, using advanced 3D radio frequency technology. It is designed to help provide the feeling of tight, lifted, and smooth skin with precision. It aims to target the appearance of wrinkles, acne marks and textured skin for a radiant, youthful appearance. Non-invasive and ergonomic, this device is designed to deliver professional looking results right at home. Visit www.skinovationlab.com and follow @skinovationlabofficial on Instagram.

10

3LAB
3LAB
"H" Cream
Healthier Skin
3LAB
"H" Cream

11

KATYA LOVE
FACE & BODY
Cleansing Oil

12

iho
SKIN
THE SOLUTION
bi-phase serum
sérum biphasé
1 oz | 30 mL

10. 3LAB unveils "H" Cream: a breakthrough formula powered by peptides and their patent-pending Double the Efficacy™ system. It is designed to help leave your skin feeling firmer and hydrated. This innovation reflects their science-first approach to modern luxury skincare. Discover more at 3lab.com and follow @3labskincare on Instagram.

11. Nature's luxury meets scientific precision in **KATYA LOVE**'s revolutionary Cleansing Oil. Handcrafted in small batches, this blend harnesses rare botanicals. It aims to deliver visible results. Experience skincare alchemy at its finest. Visit KatyaLove.com and follow @kerncosmetics on Instagram.

12. IHO SKIN is a Canadian-made, female-founded brand that focuses on simplifying skincare routines. Their multi-purpose bi-phase serum, The Solution, combines water-soluble actives with oils. It helps to leave you with a complexion that appears clear, radiant and smooth. Shop now at www.ihoskin.com and follow @ihoskincare on Instagram.

13

THE SRX FORMULA

14

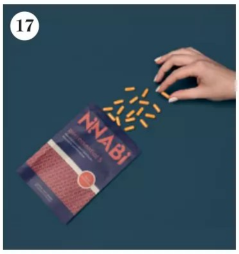
Et
Alchemist
ESSENCE OF
BOTHANIA

13. The **SRX FORMULA** is a science-led wellness protocol designed specifically for women with a 3-step daily system: Morning, Hydration, and Night. Each formula blends clinically studied nutrients, adaptogens, and bioactives. They help to support energy and your skin and aim to meet modern women's needs with precision, purpose, and emotional connection. Visit www.thesrxformula.com and follow @the.srx.formula on Instagram.

14. The Alchemist perfume oils from **HOUSE OF BOTHANIA** are birthed on the principles of transformation and self-discovery. These alchemical fragrances encourage you to turn your attention inward, to trust your senses, and to become in tune with yourself and your surroundings. They seek to enlighten, reveal and enhance who you truly are. Use them as part of your daily self-care routine. Visit houseofbothania.com and follow @houseofbothania on Instagram.

15
face it
LUXE DOUBLE FIRM NECK CREAM
LUXE OXYGEN PEEL

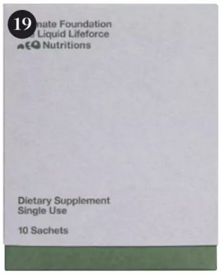
16
Jacovèus
Jacovèus
Jacovèus



15. FACE IT SKIN is a neurocosmetic brand aiming to target your skin matrix. Their Luxe Double Firming Neck Cream has key active organic ingredients including Glycolic Acid, Royal Jelly and Hexapeptides. It helps to leave your skin looking & feeling tighter. Their Luxe Oxygen Clay Mask helps to unclog and refine your pores. Visit www.faceitskin.net and follow @faceitskin on Instagram.

16. JACOVÈUS BOTANICALS is a gender-neutral, sustainable brand blending nature and innovation for high-performance haircare. Their products contain botanical ingredients like Marula, Shea Butter, and Bergamot. They nourish the hair with moisture, whilst also styling. Designed for versatility and creativity, they aim to enhance natural textures and have a commitment to healthy looking hair and environmental responsibility. Visit jacoveusbotanicals.com and follow @jacoveusbotanicals on Instagram

17. NNABI. With four capsules of Peri Essential 5™ a day, consider your perimenopause routine upgraded. A doctor-formulated blend of clinically backed herbs and adaptogens, this product aims to support sleep, digestion, immunity, and more. Women deserve more than just "powering through", they deserve to thrive. Learn more at www.nnabilife.com and follow on Instagram @nnabi.life



20
GMB
GIRL MEETS BRUSH
CONTOUR

18. FIONA FRANCHIMON - Discover the N°1 Hairpin Ribbon with Swarovski Crystals: a masterpiece designed to bring elegance and luxury to any hairstyle. Handcrafted with exquisite Swarovski® Crystals, it blends Fiona Franchimon's 25 years of hairstyling expertise with the world-renowned brilliance of Swarovski craftsmanship. Beautifully practical, endlessly timeless. Shop now at fionafranchimon.com or follow @fionafranchimon_official

19. Supercharge your beauty and well-being with **NEONUTRITIONS** Ultimate Foundation. An organic, certified next-generation 'superpowder' blending 52 ingredients, from spirulina to Siberian ginseng. It aims to restore the look of vitality from within. Shop now at www.neonutritions.com and follow @neonutritions on Instagram.

20. Sculpt like a Pro with **GMB** Focused Pro Contour Brush Set. Featuring 10 Precision Brushes—including a double-edged standout for ultimate versatility—this set pairs beautifully with the GMB Contour, Glow & Highlight Palette. Together, they deliver the look of seamless highlights and sharp contours. Visit www.girlmeetsbrush.co.uk and use the code Vogue10 for an extra 10% off (expires 19/08/25). Instagram: @girlmeetsbrush

21. Discover **ATLAS ROSE** an organic & medical grade skin & hair care brand. Clinically formulated, ethically sourced, made & manufactured in Canada. Visit Atlasrose.ca and follow @atlasroseskincare on Instagram.

23
PEACH MACARON

22. LAVOH Makeup Remover Facecloth helps to effortlessly remove makeup using only water. Lavoh's luxuriously soft, reusable cloth is a skincare essential—vegan, machine washable, and feels gentle on even the most sensitive skin. A sustainable staple for the daily makeup wearer, where elegance meets eco-conscious innovation. Visit www.lavoh.com and follow @lovelavoh on Instagram.

28
MONDERMA

23. The king of gourmands, master perfumer **THEODOROS KALOTINIS**, founded one of the first Greek artisan perfume houses, crafting some of the most realistic gourmand scents in the world. His latest creation, Peach Macaron, is a Parisian daydream: juicy peach, burnt sugar, soft vanilla, and fresh pastry wrapped in a fragrance that whispers… Ohh là là! Discover it worldwide at official retailers, all listed on theodoroskalotinis.com — where you can explore every perfumery shop that carries his gourmand treasures. Instagram: @theodoroskalotinisperfumer

24. Founded by Fatima Farouk, **KAER** is a fragrance and body care brand created to inspire confidence, luxury, and radiance in your everyday routine. From lush perfume oils to dry body oils and vibrant African exfoliating sponges, each product is crafted to elevate your self-kaer ritual. Discover indulgent scents and skin-loving formulas at bykaer.com and follow @bykaerofficial on Instagram.

25. PEITHO Lip Recovery is an all-natural, arnica-infused lip balm. It is designed to leave your lips feeling soothed and hydrated after treatments. Formulated with ingredients like mango seed butter and jojoba oil. It aims to reduce the look of swelling, bruising and dryness. Discover more at www.peitho.au and follow @peitho_au on Instagram.

26. VENNEIR's advanced formula is designed to help support a cleaner, brighter-looking smile. Suitable for veneers, crowns, implants, and composite bonding, it is free from harsh ingredients, aiming to provide a gentle option for maintaining a healthy-looking smile. Visit venneir.com and follow @venneir on Instagram.

27. Whether you're jet-setting, dancing till dawn, or powering through your daily grind, THE WATER by **RACHELITA** aims to breathe life into skin that looks tired and dull. Infused with bioferments, peptides, growth factors, and marine algae. It helps to leave your skin feeling hydrated and appearing illuminated—so you can step out in the world as you are, no makeup required. Visit www.rachelita.com and follow @rachelita.official on Instagram.

28. Skincare evolves. So should your nightly routine. **MONDERMA** offers a refined approach for modern skin. It aims to target the look of hormonal acne, fine lines, hyperpigmentation, and rosacea. Their products are formulated for visible results. Delivered to your door. Discover next-generation skincare at monderma.co.uk and @mondermahq

29. HERMANE COSMETICS is more than just a makeup line; it's a celebration of the freedom to express one's true self. Founded by three siblings who share a passion for beauty, each product is crafted with love, passion and pride. Elevate your beauty routine with sustainable and all-natural cosmetics at hermanecosmetics.ca and follow @hermanecosmetics on Instagram. Photography: @photosbydeli

30. At **THRODA SKINCARE**, skin health comes first. The Face Barrier Serum harnesses patent pending technology, offering an innovative solution for modern skincare. This groundbreaking formula is meticulously crafted to target the skin barrier and microbiome, helping skin feel calm and enhancing the look of a more youthful and radiant complexion. Rich and luxurious in feel, Throda Skincare has perfected the art of combining everything your skin needs in one exquisite bottle. Elevate your skincare routine by visiting throdaskincare.com and following @throdaskincare on Instagram for exclusive insights and updates.

31. DEEP SAND SKIN's coconut eye masks help to leave the eye area feeling hydrated and revitalised. They are designed for the whole eye area including the eye lids, under eyes and crows feet. These masks have 3 layers, with a protective top and bottom layer that aims to lock in moisture. Available to buy from www.deepsandskin.com and follow @deepsandskin for more.

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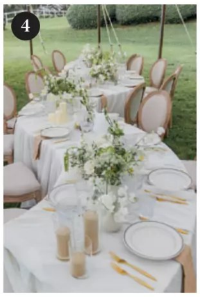
Married in Vogue

1. SARAH OLIVIA PHOTO shoots weddings like fashion editorials with feelings. Based between Edinburgh and the West Coast of the US, she captures the overflowing champagne towers, golden light through your veil, real laughs, and the kind of photos your grandkids frame, not forget. Visit www.saraholiviaphoto.com and follow @saraholiviaphoto on Instagram.

2. Based in the UAE, ***ALONA KOENIG*** infuses her photography with a distinct French "joie de vivre". This influence is evident in her use of soft, romantic tones that evoke a sense of nostalgia and refinement. Her images often feature flowing fabrics, delicate textures and serene colour palettes, creating a dreamlike atmosphere. Visit www.alonakoenigphotography.com and Instagram @alona_koenig

3. An editorial ode to bold romance - Kenna & Matt at The Sienna Hunter Valley. A play of texture, tone, and tension where modern edge meets timeless elegance. Imagined and captured by ***COCO CELEBRATIONS*** Sydney with cinematic flair and unapologetic style. Visit cococelebrations.com.au and @cococelebrations_ on Instagram.



4. With over a decade of experience in planning destination weddings, ***FOR THE GOOD EVENTS*** is a luxury event planning and design firm servicing the Hawaiian Islands and beyond. With their eye for design and their passion for doing good, the team at For The Good Events handcrafts beautiful, intentional designs, celebrating love all across the world. Visit www.forthegoodevents.com and Instagram @forthegoodevents

5. JJ WILKINS is a wedding photographer based in New York City, serving both East and West Coast and beyond. With an eye for unscripted moments, JJ is able to step in when needed and step back when it matters most. She captures the beauty of your day with both digital and analog mediums, whilst always prioritising making her couples feel at ease and present. Visit jjwilkinsphoto.com and @jjwilkinsphoto on Instagram.

6. ALAINA ELIZABETH is based just outside NYC, specialising in an editorial style and emotive storytelling. She captures authentic moments with an artful, fashion-inspired approach, creating timeless imagery. Her work is influenced by the unique essence of every couple. Visit www.alainaelizabethphoto.com and follow @alainaelizabethphoto on Instagram.

9
A Little White Chapel
Joan Collins Michael Jordan
WEDDING CHAPEL

7. Perscilla Bartley of ***THE POST WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHER*** is a DC based elopement & wedding photographer, available worldwide. An expert at making couples feel at home in front of the camera, she meets them and their wedding where they are, whether that be a large party with all their friends or an elopement to their favourite museum. Visit www.thepostweddingphotographer.com and follow @ThePostWeddingPhotographer on Instagram.

8. For couples who cherish artistry and authentic moments, ***PIA BACINO*** offers a signature blend of soul and elegance. With a refined eye shaped by her love of fashion and art, she captures weddings with emotional depth and timeless elegance. Her work is rooted in storytelling, preserving fleeting moments with an artful, documentary approach. Based between New Zealand, Europe, and the US. Visit www.piaphotography.com and follow @_piaphoto and @piabacino on Instagram.

9. Las Vegas-based photographer ***KYRA BEATTY*** brings a fashion-first perspective to modern weddings and elopements, blending sharp editorial instincts with a flair for the untraditional. Her work captures the energy, style, and spirit of the day with bold imagery and a distinctive point of view. Visit www.riskyexposurephotography.com and follow @riskyexposurephotography on Instagram.

10. For the past ten years, ***SALT ATELIER*** has captured Sydney and destination weddings with a sophisticated, natural approach. Their timeless, elegant work highlights each couple's beauty and story; valuing authenticity, creativity, and exceptional wedding experiences. Visit www.saltatelier.au and follow @saltatelier_wedding on Instagram.

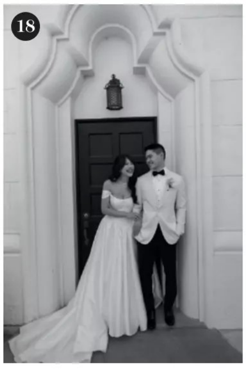
11. TENZI WEDDINGS captures luxurious weddings for modern couples through timeless, joyful imagery with an editorial sensibility. Her refined approach preserves genuine emotion and elegant moments with grace. Tenzi's work is full of life and connection. Visit tenziweddings.com and follow @tenzi.weddings on Instagram.

12. San Diego based ***SARAH ZIMMERMAN PHOTO*** specialises in destination wedding and elopement photography. She is committed to capturing couples' most intimate and vulnerable moments, transforming raw emotions into timeless visuals that celebrate genuine love stories. Visit www.sarahzimmermanphoto.com and @sarahzimmermanphoto on Instagram.

13. Known for her authentic, documentary style, ***SHARON SEVGI KO*** captures the raw and nostalgic moments with emotional depth and artistic nuance. With a blend of film, Super 8 video, and digital photography, she preserves love stories for couples in California and all over the world. Visit sharonsevgiko.com and follow @sharonko_photo on Instagram.

14. VOVA CHI is a luxury wedding photographer based in New York and Miami, celebrated for his exquisite editorial vision and timeless approach. He artfully transforms wedding moments into graceful, enduring imagery — perfect for couples seeking a sophisticated and classic aesthetic. Discover more at www.vovachi.com and @vovachiphotography on Instagram.

15. CAROL OLIVA is a renowned Wedding and Elopement Photographer based in Oahu, Hawaii, with over 20 years of experience. Blending editorial elegance with raw authenticity, Carol crafts stunning visual stories that capture love's truest moments, all while embracing the natural beauty of her island surroundings. Visit www.carololivaphoto.com and @carololivia_photography on Instagram.



16. SUN & SOUL PHOTO: With intentional storytelling in every frame, Taylor brings a bold editorial style to wedding photography—capturing each moment through a fashion-forward, artistic lens. Her hybrid approach blends the timeless beauty of film with the precision of crisp digital imagery, all wrapped in a documentary style that ensures every part of your day is authentically preserved. Based on the West Coast and available for destination weddings worldwide, she serves couples who value style, authenticity, and storytelling. Visit sunandsoulphoto.com and follow @sunandsoulphoto on Instagram.

17. TRICIA BAILEY is a full-service weddng photographer based in Oklahoma and Texas, travelling worldwide to document weddings with an editorial eye. She collaborates closely with couples and planners throughout the planning process to artfully capture the emotion, beauty, and heartfelt details of each celebration. Visit www.triciabailey.co and follow @triciabailey.co on Instagram.

18. Based in Southern California, ***ALAZZIA GAOAY*** blends an editorial eye with a documentary approach—capturing weddings in their rawest, most intentional form. With 8 years of experience, their work is a seamless fusion of storytelling and fine art, embracing both the grand and unconventional. Alazzia is drawn to couples who create their day unapologetically, celebrating love in a way that feels like them. See more of her work at agianniphotography.com or on Instagram @agianniphoto

19. Annie Darr of ***ANNIE DARR PHOTO + FILM*** is a film, digital and Super 8 wedding photographer based in Ohio, USA, known for her timeless and emotive storytelling. She captures stunning weddings across the globe. Explore her work at www.anniedarr.com and on Instagram @anniedarrphoto

20. For couples who see their wedding as an editorial masterpiece, ***JOSUE PRINCE PHOTOGRAPHY*** captures love through the lens of fine art and fashion. Working with digital, film and Super 8 motion film, their work transforms each moment into magazine-worthy imagery. Visit josueprince.com and follow on Instagram @josueprince

21. SARAH ANNE THOMPSON captures weddings with cinematic grace and quiet intensity—images that linger like a half-remembered dream. For the modern romantic drawn to nuance, emotion, and refined editorial storytelling. Visit www.SarahAnneThompson.com and follow @Sarah.Anne.Thompson on Instagram.

22. GRACIELA ELENA PHOTOGRAPHY is an East Coast–based wedding creative working in both film and digital formats. Using film and Super 8, she captures real, unscripted moments with an editorial edge, blending timeless storytelling and artistic intention across celebrations worldwide. Visit gracielaelenaphotography.com and @gracielaelenaphotography on Instagram.

23. JASON & DARIS specialise in capturing unforgettable memories through luxurious, cinematic wedding photography and films. Their work blends artistry and emotion, showcasing elegant celebrations against breathtaking backdrops. With an eye for detail and a passion for storytelling, they create visuals that perfectly encapsulate each couple's unique journey. Discover their beauty at www.jasonanddaris.com and follow @jasonanddaris on Instagram.

24. ISABELLA ROSE STUDIO is a luxury wedding planning and design studio, renowned for orchestrating sophisticated, detail-driven celebrations. With a signature aesthetic rooted in timeless elegance and modern refinement, they offer a discreet, full-service experience tailored to discerning clients seeking flawless execution and truly unforgettable, artfully curated occasions. Visit www.isabellarosestudio.com and @isabellarosestudio

25. LITE WEDDINGS' signature style blends documentary-inspired honesty with editorial elegance, capturing the day's natural beauty with timeless grace. They believe the most powerful images are the ones that feel true—and that means keeping the experience real, and deeply personal. Visit liteweddings.com and follow @liteweddings on Instagram.

26. LISA YOUNG is a Midwest-based wedding photographer known for her modern editorial style with a timeless sentiment. With a background in interior architecture, she brings a refined eye for design, detail, and storytelling—capturing weddings with sophistication, warmth, and intention. Discover more at www.lisayoungphotos.com and follow @lisayoungphotos on Instagram.

27. KATHERINE KRAKOWSKI, based in Chicago and San Francisco, is a sought-after wedding photographer known for her cinematic, documentary-style work across digital and film. Her images blend nostalgia, artistry, and soul, capturing timeless stories for couples who value meaningful connections. Available worldwide. Visit www.katherinekrakowski.com and follow @katherinekrakowski on Instagram.

28. KYLIE FARMER PHOTOGRAPHY captures timeless, emotive moments with a natural, cinematic style. Specialising in weddings and elopements, her work blends raw connection, soft light, and breathtaking landscapes to create storytelling imagery that feels both intimate and editorial. Each frame reflects authenticity, romance, and effortless elegance. Visit www.kyliefarmer.com and follow @kyliefarmerphotography on Instagram.

29. LAURIANE VEGA is an editorial wedding photographer who specialises in capturing authentic moments and deep connections. With a blend of documentary and editorial styles, her work reflects her passion for emotion, memory, and storytelling. She creates timeless images that go beyond trends, focusing on the heart of each story. Visit laurianevega.com and follow @laurianevega on Instagram.

30. ELYSA MARIA PHOTOGRAPHY is a New York wedding photographer capturing timeless, emotion-rich imagery with a nostalgic touch. Known for her documentary approach and artistic eye, she photographs celebrations with elegance, warmth and heart - creating honest, beautiful work that feels both effortless and enduring. Visit elysamaria.com and @elysamariaphoto on Instagram.

31. Hannah, the filmmaker behind ***H FILMS HAWAII*** is a destination wedding videographer inspired by movement and emotion. Her films reflect all the raw and genuine emotion of her couples' wedding days, with a cinematic touch. Hannah focuses on both the grand and intimate moments of each unique wedding, striving to tell every love story artfully and authentically. Visit hfilmshawaii.com and @hfilmshawaii on Instagram.

32. Frankfurt-based ***MALINA PHOTOGRAPHY*** captures stylish weddings around the world. Defined by editorial elegance, an eye for detail enables an artful elevation of the day's special moments. With a distinct perspective, she captures the essence of every couple's love story. Visit www.malinaphotography.com and follow @photography.by.malina on Instagram.

33. DAB G. PHOTO is a wedding photographer based in the US, blending digital and film to create timeless, chic imagery. Specialising in capturing moments with a romantic, editorial-inspired approach. Available worldwide. For enquiries, visit dabgphoto.com or follow on Instagram @dabgphoto

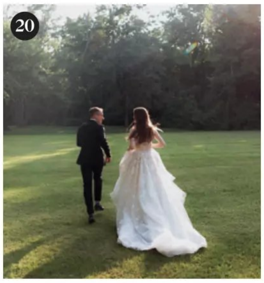
34. With a cinematic, fine art approach, ***ALY ROBINSON PHOTOGRAPHY*** captures the ethereal essence of your love story. Based in the UK, Aly is available for destination weddings across Europe and the United States, transforming fleeting moments into timeless elegance. Visit www.alyrobinson.photography and @alyrobinson.photography on Instagram.

35. EVERY LITTLE SOMETHING blends world-class training with years of hands-on expertise in graphic design and print layout. Their artistry and precision ensure every piece is beautifully designed and meticulously crafted, delivering timeless stationery and bespoke creations that embody elegance, sophistication, and the highest standards of craftsmanship. Visit www.everylittlesomething.com and Instagram @every.little.something

36. JACQUELYN MCPHEE is a sought-after bridal makeup artist renowned for her radiant, editorial-inspired looks. Based in Scotland, she caters to modern, stylish brides across the UK and Europe, offering a calming presence and bespoke artistry that enhances each bride's natural elegance. Visit www.jacquelynmcphee.com and @jacquelynmcpheemakeup on Instagram.

37. FELISHA KNAPP is a Fine Art Wedding Photographer, renowned for her detailed bridal portraits. With soft, true to colour edits, she blends a documentary feel with bold editorial moments. Felisha is based in Kansas and available to for weddings worldwide. Visit www.felishaknapp.photos and @felishaknapphotography on Instagram.

38. New York based duo ***ROSE & FOX*** focus on capturing real moments with a natural, seamless approach. Blending film and digital, they document not only the big milestones but also the quiet, in-between moments - telling your story with authenticity, artistry, and timeless elegance. Visit roseandfoxphotography.com and follow @roseandfoxphotography_ on Instagram.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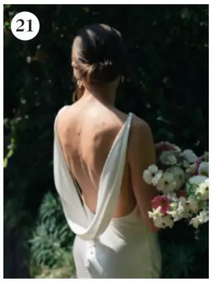
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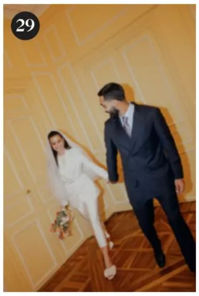
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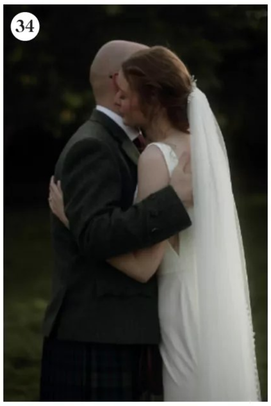
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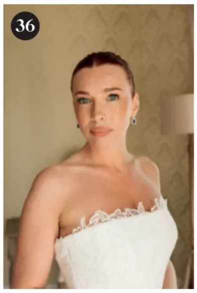
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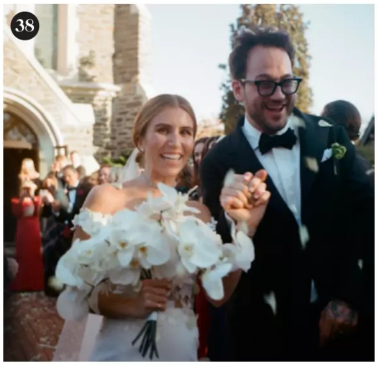
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Married in Vogue

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39. DARIAMPHOTOGRAPHY creates emotive, artful wedding imagery that goes beyond the surface, capturing love in its rawest, most beautiful form. Using both digital and film mediums, Daria builds meaningful relationships with each couple, preserving their story through timeless photos and nostalgic camcorder videos for unforgettable, behind-the-scenes memories. Based in NYC she travels worldwide to capture the love. Visit dariamphotography.com and @daria_m_photography on Instagram.

40. KT PRESTON PHOTOGRAPHY is a North Carolina-based destination wedding photographer capturing the art of your unique love story. Their approach beautifully blends romantic, editorial, and documentary styles, enhanced by an upscale editing process. Discover their portfolio at www.ktprestonphotography.com and follow @ktprestonphotography on Instagram.

41. BLAYKE Z. is a sought-after destination wedding photographer known for luxury imagery infused with an editorial aesthetic. Her signature style blends timeless romance with fine art, resulting in photographs that feel both iconic and intimate. Explore her work at blaykezphotography.com and follow @blaykezphotography on Instagram.

42. MACAYLA LOTT is a documentary wedding and elopement photographer based in Utah, but serving world-wide, with an emphasis on the Pacific Northwest. She documents tender love stories with a touch of adventure and romance, in both film and digital mediums. Visit macaylalottphotography.com and follow @macaylalottphoto on Instagram.

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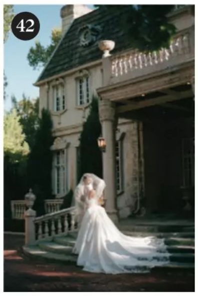

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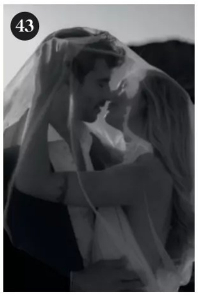

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43. BOVELLA PHOTOGRAPHY captures elegant weddings across Europe with a deep love for black and white imagery, an editorial eye and genuine emotion. Büsra blends minimalism with fashion aesthetics to create timeless photographs. Learn more at www.bovellaphotography.com and @bovellaphotography on Instagram.

44. Boston-based wedding photographer **NICOLE CHAN** specialises in capturing the moments that unfold amidst the grandeur of your special day. With a passion for storytelling, she preserves the laughter, tears, and joy that define your most meaningful moments. Visit nicolechanphotography.com and follow @nicolechanphotography on Instagram.

45. KARA is a Montreal-based boutique studio capturing weddings through photography & videography with European cinema's soul, old-world elegance and a rhythm inspired by jazz. Their imagery dances between light and feeling, crafting timeless stories from fleeting moments. Visit karafilms.com and Instagram @karafilms to step into their world.

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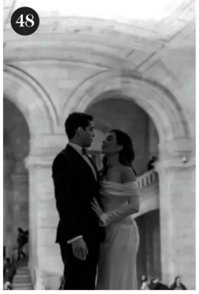

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46. MARIO NIXON is a Bahamas based luxury wedding photographer. He's known for capturing authentic, timeless images that infuse the natural beauty of the Islands with each client's love story. His bold artistry uniquely encapsulates unforgettable memories with elegance and style. Planner Weddings in The Bahamas. Visit www.marionixon.com and follow @mnp242 on Instagram.

47. MADELINE ROSE PHOTO offers film and documentary-style wedding photography with an editorial touch across the Pacific Northwest. Blending digital and analog formats for a timeless, evocative aesthetic, she works expertly with 120mm + 35mm film, Polaroids, and Super 8 film, alongside digital photography. Trusted by discerning couples and luxury planners for a seamless, immersive photography experience that prioritises thoughtful direction and natural connection. Visit www.madelinerosephoto.com and follow @madelinerosephoto on Instagram.

48. NICOLE MORAN PHOTOGRAPHY provides an discerning and sensitive lens for your special day. Her combination of artistic sensibility and emotional sensitivity results in photos that not only look beautiful, but capture and emulate the authentic feelings of your wedding day, serving as a true time capsule. Based in New York City. Visit www.nicolemoranphotography.com and follow @nicolemoran.photography on Instagram.

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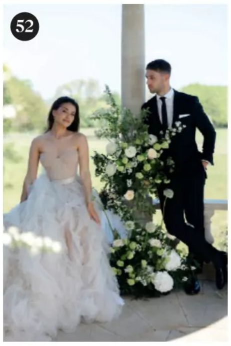

49. MIA MELIN's captivating journey amidst diverse cultures has finely honed her gift for grasping the true essence of individuals. This fervour propels her love for authentic, documentary-style photography that is infused with fashion-forward editorial finesse. Her magnetism lies in the unadulterated authenticity of life, capturing those spontaneous, in-the-moment gestures that embody the core of our shared humanity. Yet, amidst these candid scenes, she guides you to radiate as your narrative's main character. Visit miamelin.com and follow @miamelin_photography on Instagram.

50. Sheila Gomez, founder of **PAMELA EVENTS**, is a luxury destination wedding planner crafting timeless celebrations across Europe. With an eye for refined elegance and emotional storytelling, she curates bespoke experiences for couples worldwide. Photo by Fotograf Francesco. Visit www.pamelaevents.com and follow @pamelaevents on Instagram.

51. Martina Gurgel and Dr. Frantz Lerebours celebrated their fairytale wedding at Château Bouffémont near Paris. **GRABAZEI PHOTOGRAPHY** beautifully captured the black-tie elegance and romantic garden ceremony with their signature timeless and editorial photography style. Visit @grabazei_photography on Instagram and www.grabazei.com

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52. LAURA WELLS MAKEUP offers bespoke bridal makeup services, covering all of the UK and destination locations. With over 12 years industry experience, Laura believes in timeless and elegant bridal makeup that enhances natural beauty and makes brides feel like the best version of themselves. Photo by @jessypapasavvaphotography. Visit www.laurawellsmakeup.co.uk and Instagram @laurawellsmakeup

53. AMANDA WEI PHOTO, for couples who crave authentic, artful storytelling. A documentary-style approach with a refined, editorial eye - candid, emotional, and timeless. Based in San Francisco, travelling worldwide to capture luxury weddings with effortless elegance and heartfelt depth. Visit amandaweiphoto.com and @amandaweiphoto on Instagram.

54 . AMOUR WEDDINGS is a New Zealand-based photography and videography duo crafting cinematic films and editorial imagery. Known for capturing candid, artful moments with style and intention, they tell modern love stories through a refined lens - where timeless aesthetics meet effortless, emotionally rich storytelling. Visit www.amourweddings.co.nz and @amour.weddings_ on Instagram.

55. NATASHA RAE is a visual storyteller, capturing everything from intoxicating romance to those unscripted, hidden moments. With a background in editorial and creative portraiture, her work is bold and full of emotion. She's not afraid to climb a van or dance with guests to get the perfect shot. Based in North Yorkshire, she offers a tailored, intimate experience globally, ensuring each couple feels confident up close and personal to her lens. Visit www.raerae.net and follow @natasharae.photography on Instagram.

56. *ELIF MENGENE* offers modern and documentary style wedding photography and videography as a duo. Based in Germany and travelling worldwide, they capture elegant and emotional love stories in beautiful destinations with authenticity, artistry and timeless aesthetics, preserving memories for a lifetime. Visit @elif.mengene and www.elifmengene.com

57. *BULUNTU WEDDINGS* blends Hollywood glamour, vintage aesthetics and modern photography to capture unique and timeless wedding stories. Behind the lens is Büsra, whose passion and artistic eye is evident in every image. Collaborating closely with each couple, she crafts their dream photos to be treasured forever. Visit www.buluntu-weddings.com and @buluntu.weddings on Instagram.

58. Wedding photographer ***MARIE SCHOLZ*** offers a premium experience for laid back couples who want to look back at their galleries and think "that is SO us". Her timeless documentary approach knows no geographical boundaries and captures the depth of your love story — from tears to laughs, hugs to arm squeezes — amongst the world's most beautiful backdrops. Visit www.mariescholz.com and follow @mariescholzphoto on Instagram.

59. *MARIANA PIERCE* is an acclaimed destination wedding photographer celebrated for the timeless elegance and modern artistry in her imagery. Capturing weddings across Mexico, Spain, Colombia and the Caribbean islands, she draws inspiration from architectural forms, cinematic colour and unfiltered joy. Visit www.pierceweddings.com and follow @pierceweddings on Instagram.

60. Kassie Watson of ***XO EVENT CO.*** flawlessly brings the vision of your dream wedding to life, curating every detail with intention and refinement. In collaboration with Okie Floral Co. and captured by Sierra Ellis Photography. Visit www.xoeventco.com and follow @xoevent.co on Instagram.

61. *MORGAN LUCA*'s photography fluidly merges documentary and editorial elements, capturing genuine moments with a refined sensibility. Focused on authenticity and emotion, Morgan tells each couple's unique story, blending candid moments with subtle elegance to create timeless images that celebrate love. Visit www.morganluca.com and follow @morganlucaphoto on Instagram.

62. A refined destination wedding in the Caribbean, captured with an eye for elegance and emotion. ***VIJOWEDDING*** specialises in luxury wedding photography that tells timeless, stylish love stories. See more on Instagram @vijo.wedding or at www.vijo-wedding.com

63. *LUDOVIC GRAU-MINGOT*'s signature style pairs bold, editorial compositions with organic, unscripted moments. The result? Wedding imagery that's both striking and sincere - perfect for couples who want runway-worthy portraits alongside authentic laughter and tears. A master of contrasts in every frame. Based in France, available worldwide. Visit www.lgm.art and follow @lgm.photographer on Instagram.

64. *INÉS LACASA* is a Spanish fashion designer and founder of one of the first Conscious Couture bridal ateliers. Inspired by her artisanal heritage and experience in renowned fashion houses, she designs timeless gowns with refined silhouettes, rich textures, and responsibly sourced materials - each piece a poetic fusion of sustainability, elegance, and modern craftsmanship. Visit www.ineslacasa.com and @ines.lacasa on Instagram.

65. *ALESSANDRA PARKS PHOTOGRAPHY* captures exquisite wedding weekends with a signature blend of timeless candids, editorial portraits, and fine art documentary style images. More at www.alessandraparksphoto.com and on Instagram @alessandraparksphoto

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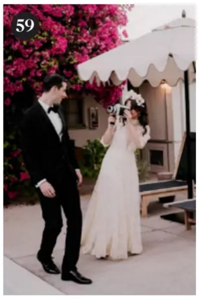
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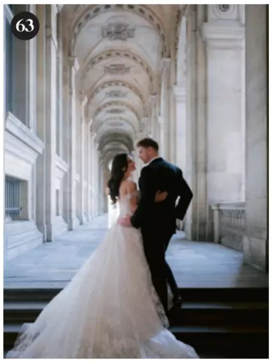
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Love's Landscapes

1. *GVE WEDDINGS & EVENTS* is a family-owned and operated company established in 1984, specialising in destination weddings in Italy. As a farm-to-table scratch kitchen, their produce is sourced organically from local farmers and prepared fresh on-site. As the second oldest catering in the Province of Pisa, Tuscan tradition and excellence is their standard. Explore www.gveweddings.com and @countryrelaislecapanne on Instagram. Shot by Mackenzie Alexa Photography.

2. In the romantic and spectacular setting of the Sorrento coast, the elegant ***HOTEL MEDITERRANEO SORRENTO*** will let you enjoy the best view of the peninsula in an elegant, refined and contemporary setting. Combining multiple location options to realise your perfect wedding, their expert team will assist you with with every detail, from delicious Italian food, flowers and decoration, so you can be completely relaxed during your special day. Explore www.mediterraneosorrento.com and follow @perfectweddingsorrento on Instagram.

3. *CORNWELL MANOR* is one of the most romantic places in England to be married. Its exquisite Georgian façade is a photographer's dream, and the garden, with its terraces, lake views, beautifully tended flowerbeds and rolling parkland, is the stuff of fantasy. The house, gardens and ballroom are also available for exclusive private hire with a minimum 3-night stay. Contact charlotte@cornwellmanor.com for further information and visit www.cornwellmanor.com and @cornwell_manor on Instagram. Shot by The Curries.

4. *VILLA POZZOLO* offers an exclusive, no-stress Tuscan wedding experience. From custom dining and an open bar, to live music, florals and decorations, and hair and make-up all included. Set on 40 hectares, it features 23 elegant bedrooms, a heated saltwater pool, and stunning indoor and outdoor event spaces. Explore www.villapozzolo.com and @villa_pozzolo on Instagram. Shot by @photographers_and_partners

5. *BONO BEACH*, just ten minutes from Marbella on Costa del Sol, offers stunning views of the Mediterranean, Gibraltar, and Morocco. Perfect for weddings, parties, and events, their experienced team ensures exceptional service, creating unforgettable moments in a beautiful beachfront setting. Visit www.bonobeachmarbella.com and follow @bonobeachmarbella on Instagram.

6. Immerse yourselves in lush greenery, picturesque gardens and orchards at ***THE BAUMBERHOF***, an enchanting destination where nature takes centre stage. This exclusive private estate blends romantic European architecture with breathtaking indoor and outdoor settings, including a stunning glass-roof conservatory and a charming stone barn. The Baumberhof offers an elegant backdrop for all of life's most special moments. Explore thebaumberhof.com and @thebaumberhof on Instagram.

7. *LIOPETRO* is a stunning wedding venue near Paphos, Cyprus, known for its rustic charm and panoramic view of the Mediterranean Sea. Set in an archaeological area, it blends tradition with elegance. The venue offers Michelin Star compiled menus, providing dining experiences that elevate every celebration with unforgettable taste and style. Visit www.liopetro.com.cy and follow @liopetrovenue on Instagram.

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Love's Landscapes

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8. CRUMPLEBURY, located on the Herefordshire and Worcestershire border, is a venue for the curious. Tucked away from the outside world, yet perfectly accessible from major road networks and airports, Crumplebury is an extraordinary one-of-a-kind setting where remarkable partnerships begin. Visit www.crumplebury.co.uk or @crumplebury on Instagram to feed your curiosity.

9. SLIEVE DONARD, nestled at the foot of the Mourne Mountains and bordered by the Irish Sea, offers a breathtaking coastal setting for your special day. With a range of exceptional event spaces, from the intimate Annesley Room to the lavish Grand Ballroom, Slieve Donard provides an unforgettable backdrop and unparalleled service for your wedding celebration. Visit marineandlawn.com and follow @marineandlawn on Instagram.

10. BAGLIO SORÌA, an exclusive wedding venue in Sicily, Trapani, offers stunning views of salt pans and Mount Erice. Owned by the Firriato winery family, it combines history, elegance, and tradition. Chef Andrea Macca crafts exquisite menus, and Wedding Coordinator Rosita Pace ensures perfection for your big day. Visit bagliosoria.it and follow @bagliosoria on Instagram.

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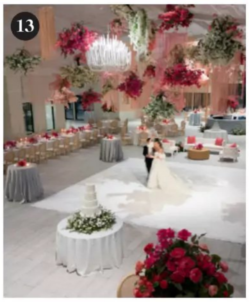

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11. Nestled in the enchanting landscapes of Llangollen, Wales, ***TYN DWR HALL*** is a luxurious wedding venue blending historic grandeur with contemporary elegance. Renowned for its magical ambience and breathtaking scenery, it offers couples impeccable service in an unforgettable destination to celebrate their love. Quote 'Vogue' when booking to add a complimentary upgrade (expires 31/08/2025) and discover more at tyndwrhall.co.uk and @tyndwrhall on Instagram.

12. DORNOCH STATION offers a breathtaking Highlands backdrop, historic architecture and elegant interiors for unforgettable weddings. Nestled in the heart of the Scottish Highlands, newly renovated guest rooms, exquisite dining, and stunning event space provide a picturesque setting. Their dedicated team ensures a bespoke experience from planning to the big day, making every moment truly special. Visit marineandlawn.com and follow @marineandlawn on Instagram.

13. ASPEN RANCH is a modern and elegant wedding venue nestled on 160 acres of private land. Light and airy, the venue serves as a blank canvas surrounded by landscaped grounds, breathtaking sunsets, and beautiful lake views that provide endless picturesque possibilities. Offering a range of spaces and onsite lodging, Aspen Ranch provides a dedicated team and undivided attention for an unforgettable wedding day tailored to your needs. Family-owned and operated, the ranch also serves as a forever home to a charming family of rescue animals. Explore www.aspenranchok.com and @aspenranchok on Instagram.

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14. Nestled in Salento, Puglia, ***IL GIARDINO GRANDE*** is a historic Dimora owned by siblings Valentina and Marco. With six rooms and suites blending 19th-century charm and modern comfort, it offers a stunning venue, ideal for a dreamlike wedding with beautiful outdoor spaces. Visit www.ilgiardinogrande.com and follow @ilgiardinogrande on Instagram.

15. Perched above the shimmering Ionian Sea, ***VILLA SYLVA*** in Corfu is a secluded haven for unforgettable weddings. Just 10 minutes from Corfu Town, this lush estate blends elegance and intimacy with breathtaking views, enchanting gardens, and a magical poolside setting. A timeless venue where love stories unfold under starlit skies - Villa Sylva is where dreams begin. Visit villasylva.com and @villasylva on Instagram. Shot by Deux Foskolos.

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16. Tucked away in London's West End, ***L'OSCAR LONDON*** is a quietly romantic setting for a wedding. Once a Baptist chapel, its 1856 architecture has been beautifully restored and the interiors elegantly designed by Jacques Garcia, blending its original features with rich opulence. With every detail curated with grace, your celebration will be as memorable as your love story. Explore www.loscarlondon.com and @loscarlondon on Instagram.

17. COPPER ROSE RANCH, nestled in Paradise Valley, Montana, offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains and the Yellowstone River. With a beautifully restored barn and modern amenities, it perfectly blends rustic charm and elegance, providing an unforgettable setting for couples seeking a unique and memorable wedding celebration. Visit www.copperroseranch.com and follow @copperroseranch on Instagram. Shot by Lost Pine Photo and Film.

18. Say "I do" at ***ROCABELLA SANTORINI HOTEL & SPA***, where breathtaking views, top-notch service, and elegance become one. Tie the knot in true Santorinian style and create a wedding to remember. Located on the unique Caldera cliffside, each location offers infinite views of the Aegean blues. Enquire at weddingteam@rocabellasantorini.com and explore rocabellaweddings.com and @rocabellaweddings on Instagram. Credits: Vangelis Photography.

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19. In the heart of Central Vermont, USA, ***MOUNTAIN TOP RESORT*** boasts over 700 acres for the perfect wedding, no matter the season. Offering lodging for up to 290 guests, year-round activities, an on-site floral design team, salon services available, and a stunning view of the Green Mountains, it's the ideal spot, no matter how many people you're looking to celebrate with. Visit mountaintopinn.com and @mountaintopresort on Instagram.

20. CHÂTEAU DE LA GRUERIE is a hidden gem in the Burgundy countryside, south of Paris. Featuring period buildings and enchanting gardens, it combines influences from France, Tuscany, Provence, and England in the unique La Gruerie style. Mixing olive trees, cypresses, umbrella pine, box trees and lush greenery, this intimate and private haven offers a unique setting for an unforgettable celebration. Visit www.lagruerie.com and follow @chateaudelagruerie Shot by @iamlaury

> 158 MAESTRO & ME

performance Lloyd sent a camera after Tom Francis as he walked the Strand in London, as delighted passersby filmed him for TikToks. When banished to Mantua, Tom Holland's Romeo took to the roof of the Duke of York's. His form in this area has led to rumours that Zegler's Eva will appear on the balcony of the Palladium every night. Lloyd is mum about that. But a laughing Zegler does say, "We've been dubbing it Eva Perón's Coachella set."

Eva is a part she has longed to play, ever since first coming across the 1996 film adaptation starring Madonna. "It's one of those roles for women in musical theatre that has everything you could possibly want to do as a performer. You get to sing your face off, you get to dance, and it's a really meaty acting part where you go through 18 years of someone's life, from the age of 15 until her death."

For Zegler, making her British stage debut, *Evita* must seem like a haven of sorts after her travails with the controversy that grew around *Snow White*, where her casting was subject to racist attacks on social media about her Colombian heritage. Later, her comments about the old-fashioned portrayal of the original Disney heroine and her public support for Palestinian rights also prompted criticism.

Zegler, normally voluble, is cautious. "It was a lot of wonderful hard work," she says, stiffly. "I'm very proud of the work that was done on it, very proud of the way my performance was received, because it was a performance I cared deeply about as I do with all the things I work on."

She is more outspoken about the character of Eva Perón. "To this day in Argentina, people revere her or they revile her. Yet she made such an impact. I think it is wonderful when pieces turn to the audience and ask them how they feel."

Lloyd agrees. "There's so much complexity in it. It's almost like a series of tableau in a way. You've got to embrace the fact that it's jagged and weird and there are various musical styles. This journey from her humble beginnings to icon makes sense for a contemporary audience in terms of the pop stars of today, those iconic people in popular culture. Making it into a Coachella or Glastonbury set is an interesting way of harnessing the power of the music."

These ideas are how Lloyd keeps the beat of his era. Yet it would be a mistake to consider his theatricality, his ability to rethink the classics, is a matter of style over substance. "The thing I love about Jamie," says Hiddleston, "is his courage in honouring the plays. He is very wise and disciplined with us as actors, asking us to engage very deeply with the material, whether that's with the lyricism of Shakespeare or the pauses and silences of Pinter."

But there is added magic. Lloyd says he chooses his work on "pure instinct". He isn't even a compulsive audience member. "I love going to the theatre, but I don't go and see absolutely everything." So what's next? "I love the experience of reading a play for the first time," he replies, thoughtfully. "And if I have some kind of imaginative response to it, then I'll do it."

Evita will be at The London Palladium, W1, from 14 June to 6 September

VOGUE INFORMATION

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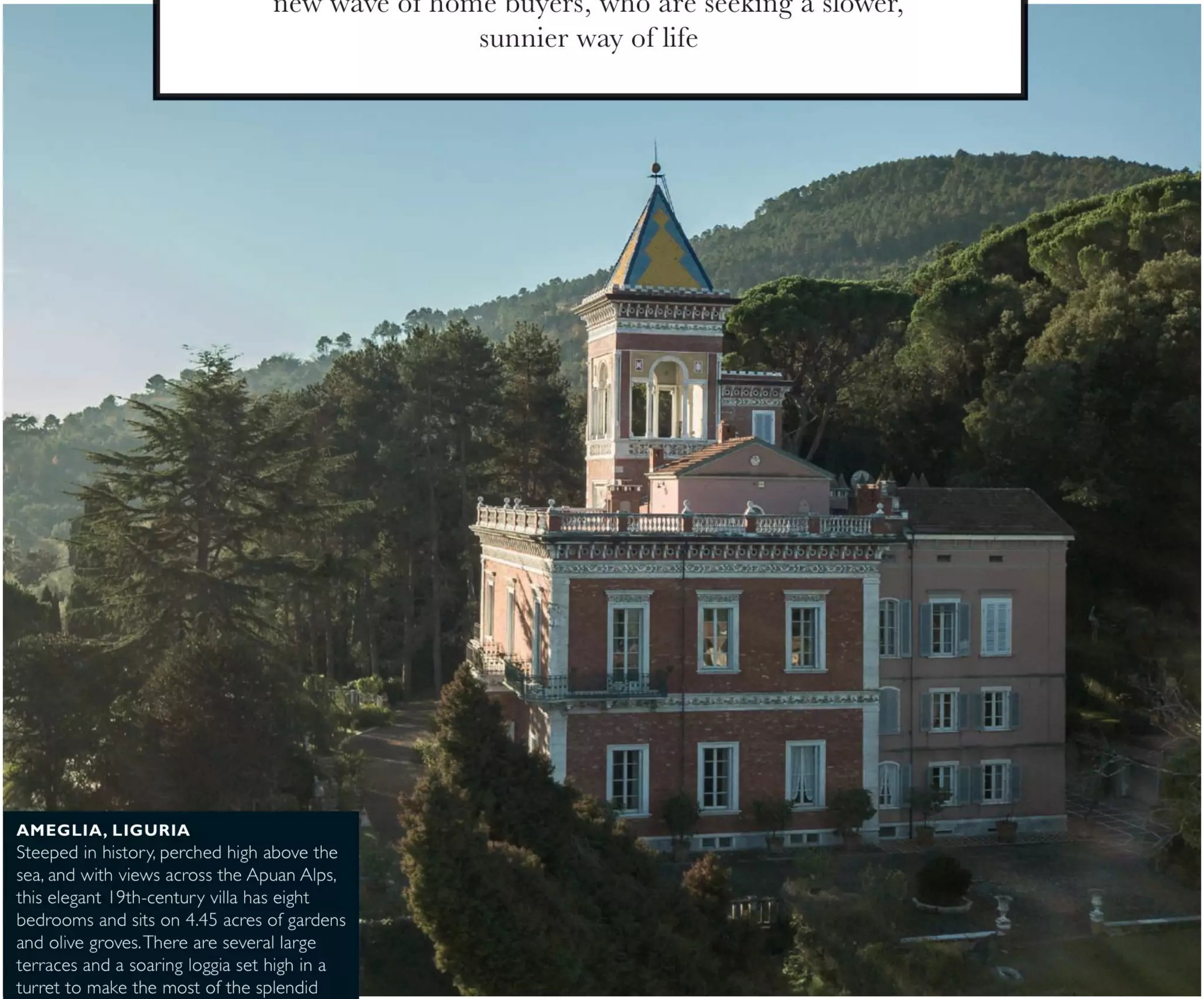
BUON VIVERE

Italy has long seduced travellers – now it's attracting a new wave of home buyers, who are seeking a slower, sunnier way of life

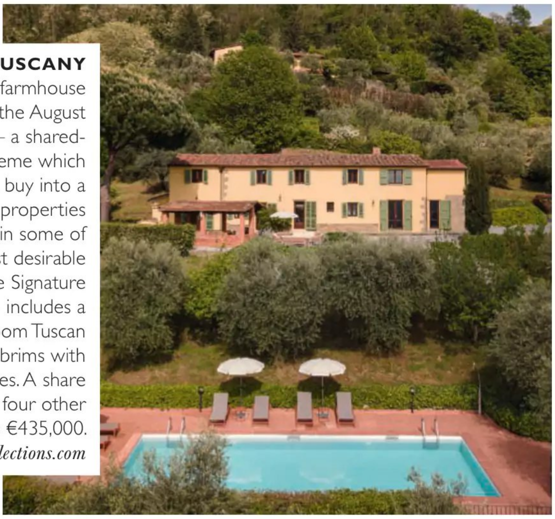


AMEGLIA, LIGURIA
Steeped in history, perched high above the sea, and with views across the Apuan Alps, this elegant 19th-century villa has eight bedrooms and sits on 4.45 acres of gardens and olive groves. There are several large terraces and a soaring loggia set high in a turret to make the most of the splendid outlook. POA.
knightfrank.com

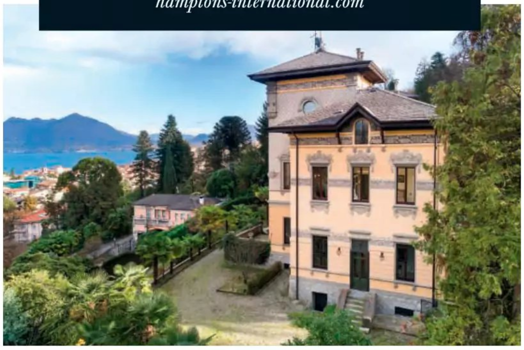
It would be hard to spend any amount of time in Italy and not fall in love with it. It is a country where beauty is the default, known for its excellent food, good wine and welcoming, convivial atmosphere. For millennia, it has been at the cultural and literal heart of Europe – the epicentre of the vast Roman empire; the birthplace of the Renaissance; and the focus point of the Grand Tour in the 18th century, which saw flocks of young, impressionable tourists make a cultural pilgrimage to Italy and return home laden with souvenirs and imbued with a new passion for classical splendour.

Today, Italy is as popular a travel destination as ever, with cities such as Rome and Florence attracting vast quantities of visitors, as well as those seeking to make a more permanent move. 'Italy has exerted a pull on international homeowners for decades,' says Jelena Cvjetkovic, a director at Savills. 'Rome has had an injection of five-star hotel openings and Michelin-starred restaurants, which, coupled with improvements in infrastructure, are restoring its appeal as a high-end destination.' Milan is also a sought-after spot, according to Cvjetkovic, thanks to its great transport links and its status as Italy's financial and design capital.

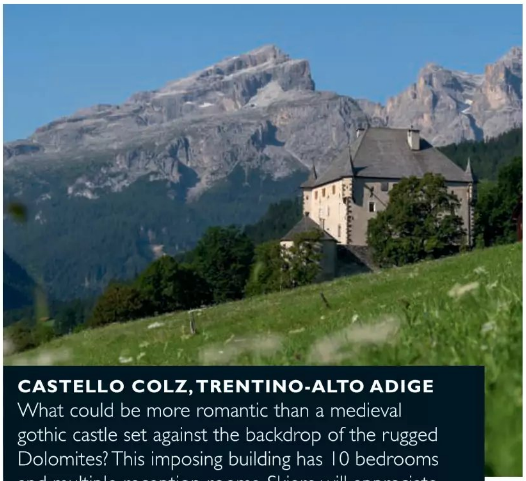
Outside of the big cities, there is so much more of the country to discover, from the Italian Lakes in the north to Sicily in the south – the latter has been enjoying a flurry of popularity lately thanks to the recent Netflix adaptation of Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's novel *The Leopard*. Whether it's the cultural heritage, the captivating countryside or the promise of a slower, more relaxing pace of life, a move to Italy could be the start of something beautiful.



VIA CROCI, TUSCANY
This traditional farmhouse is part of the August Collection – a shared-ownership scheme which allows you to buy into a group of five properties located in some of Europe's most desirable destinations. The Signature Collection includes a five-bedroom Tuscan farmhouse that brims with modern amenities. A share of this and four other properties costs €435,000.
augustcollections.com



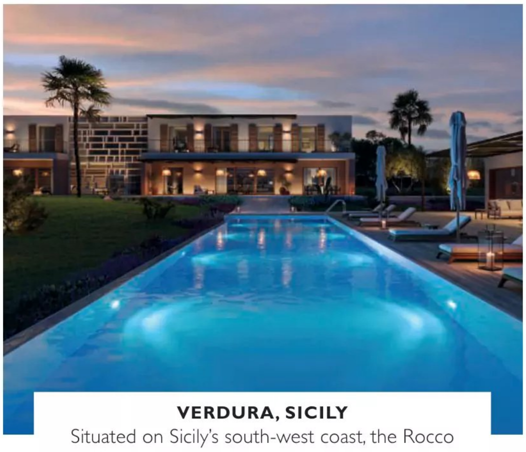
STRESA, PIEMONTE
Set across four levels, this Art Nouveau villa has been recently restored and comes with a separate guest house. It occupies an elevated, hilly spot on the western shore of Lake Maggiore, and is surrounded by its own gardens. €5 million.
hamptons-international.com



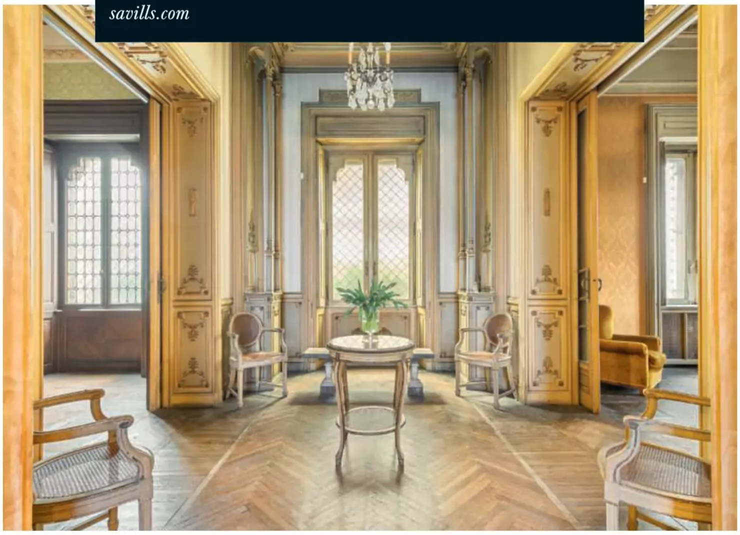
PHOTOGRAPH: Stefano Borghesi

CASTELLO COLZ, TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE
What could be more romantic than a medieval gothic castle set against the backdrop of the rugged Dolomites? This imposing building has 10 bedrooms and multiple reception rooms. Skiers will appreciate its location in the Alta Badia resort, although it's enchanting all year round. POA.
savills.com

GREAT ESTATE, TUSCANY
If you're searching for a home in or around Tuscany, then Great Estate is the first place to look. This leading Italian property network has particularly strong connections to this region, and is well placed to help British buyers who are looking for something special, whether it's a rustic farmhouse or a vineyard.
greatestate.it



VERDURA, SICILY
Situated on Sicily's south-west coast, the Rocco Forte Verdura resort has a five-star hotel and a dazzling array of amenities, as well as being one of Italy's top golf destinations. Fresh to the market is a new collection of 15 private residences, available to buy off plan from €5,210,000.
roccofortehotels.com/private-villas



VIA NOMENTANA, ROME
Built in 1925, this villa has a glittering history, having appeared in numerous films and advertising campaigns. Its popularity is well-deserved – it's set in the heart of Rome and has plenty of architectural features, from the sweeping, wrought-iron staircase to the colonnaded terraces. €5.1 million.
savills.com

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Luxury living in Norway

A paradise for outdoor adventure in the summer, a snow-sure ski resort in winter, Geilo in Norway has it all. Invest in a luxury mountain home, handcrafted by LHM and exclusively offered by Savills, and revel in year-round activities amid boundless natural beauty

Traditionally, a holiday retreat is a seasonal haven – a cosy chalet at high altitude for winter sports and a heart-warming dose of hygge, or a waterside villa for a languorous lifestyle in sun-drenched climes. Increasingly though, a priority for the discerning global elite is to focus on one destination and invest in a beautifully situated ultra-luxurious home, where a healthy active lifestyle is a year-round pursuit, thanks to leisure opportunities in the Great Outdoors right on the doorstep.

The idyll is a mountain home with a deep connection to nature. In Geilo, Norway, a high-end ski in, ski out cabin is a family HQ both for winter fun and summer adventures.

From mid November to April, the pistes and trails are ready for beginners through to World Cup-standard snow-sport lovers. In warmer months, think of hikes, bikes, wild swims, forays on horseback, canoeing and fishing on fjords and lakes, even zip lining. The range of activities is phenomenal for all ages and adrenaline appetites.

Why not follow the savviest standard-setters and invest in a cabin in Geilo – a lively village set in a valley between the national parks of Hardangervidda and Hallingskarvet, which is gateway to 'Norway's Best Ski Resort' (as voted for six consecutive years by the World Ski Awards)? As an owner of a home in a thoughtfully planned village community, you can entertain neighbours around a firepit, enjoy ski-in, ski-out access to the slopes and cross-country trails and, in the summer, listen to cowbells from slopes that produce prize-winning local cheese. It's a landscape of pristine beauty that keeps on giving.

Built with high-end natural materials in a log-cabin style rooted in Norwegian tradition, and delivered turn-key, these chicly designed cabins are supremely practical, not least in their accessibility. Oslo and Bergen are a mere two-hour flight from the UK; trains and buses go directly from both airports into the centre of Geilo, which is otherwise just over a three-hour drive from Oslo Airport. A private airport in Dagali is only 25 minutes from Geilo.

It's pure bliss… Geilo's breathtaking alpine scenery, with endless opportunities for downhill and cross-country skiing, cycling and hiking, enhances the cabin's serene elegance, making it the ultimate mountain retreat

Configured with open and contemporary floor plans, the aesthetic is a blend of tradition and modernity – with oak parquet flooring and luxury hand-made doors, a wood-burning stove, tiled bathrooms, sauna and outdoor terraces – promoting maximum comfort and ease of living. Underfloor heating in bathrooms and main living areas comes as standard. There's spacious storage and an electric car charging station.

'Thanks to Geilo's network of uncrowded ski slopes for all skill levels, the price of prime properties, including the luxury cabins on offer, has risen approximately 40 per cent in five years,' says Deyan Visser of Savills. Strong growth is further underpinned by an ongoing development project, which will feature 700 residences (apartments and cabins), as well as a hotel, restaurants and boutiques, and a fabulous new 'Geilo Taubane' gondola to the mountain top. Word is spreading about Geilo's summer appeal, with a musical festival, first-class restaurants, pools and spas, bowling, billiards, ski simulators and even golf simulators.

Foreign buyers are enthused by the indoor/outdoor lifestyle. 'I was amazed by the cabin's luxurious design and the attention to detail, it's truly a masterpiece,' says one owner. 'Geilo's stunning alpine scenery, with its endless opportunities for skiing, cycling and hiking, complements the cabin's serene elegance, making it the perfect retreat. Relaxing by the fireplace after a day in this breathtaking region is pure bliss.'

Prime properties are cabins priced 12.95million to 39million NOK (£935,000 to £2.8million).

Opposite: *timber cabins come alive with green-grass roofs in the summer to blend into the environment.* ***This page, clockwise from top:*** *triple-glazed windows showcase serene views and allow natural light to flood living areas; zip lining at Geilo Summer Park; open-plan interiors make for conviviality; take the lift up the mountain and cycle back down*

For more information please visit:

savills.com/ski

or email:

deyan.visser@savills.com

Prices quoted are sterling equivalent at time of press. All contracts in Norwegian Krone.

CONDÉ NAST
BRITAIN | PROPERTY

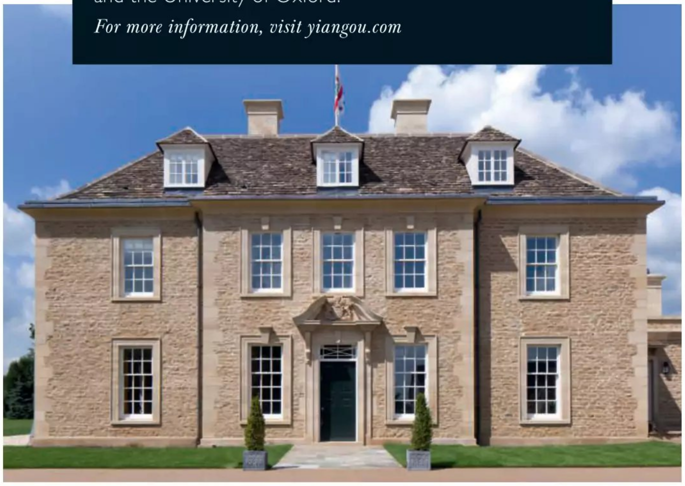
NOTEBOOK

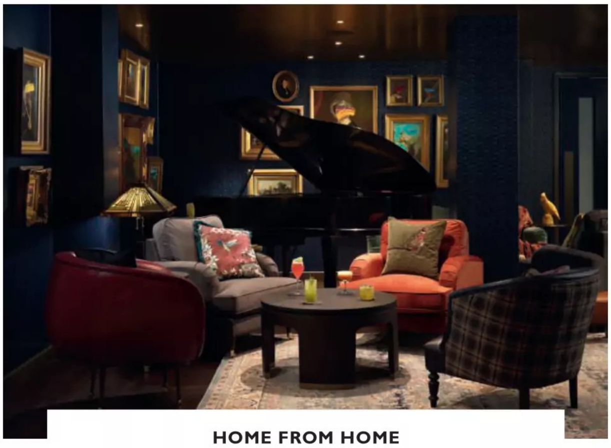
The latest property news, from exceptional architecture to stylish London residences

BUILDING ON THE PAST

It's rare to find a contemporary architectural practice that champions classicism, which is precisely why Yiangou is so popular. Based in the Cotswolds but working across the UK, the company designs buildings that have a timeless elegance. Yiangou is perhaps best known for its newbuild country houses, but it also specialises in sympathetic restoration and modernisation of historic estates, colleges and museums, having worked with an illustrious roster of clients including the National Trust, the Duchy of Cornwall and the University of Oxford.

For more information, visit yiangou.com

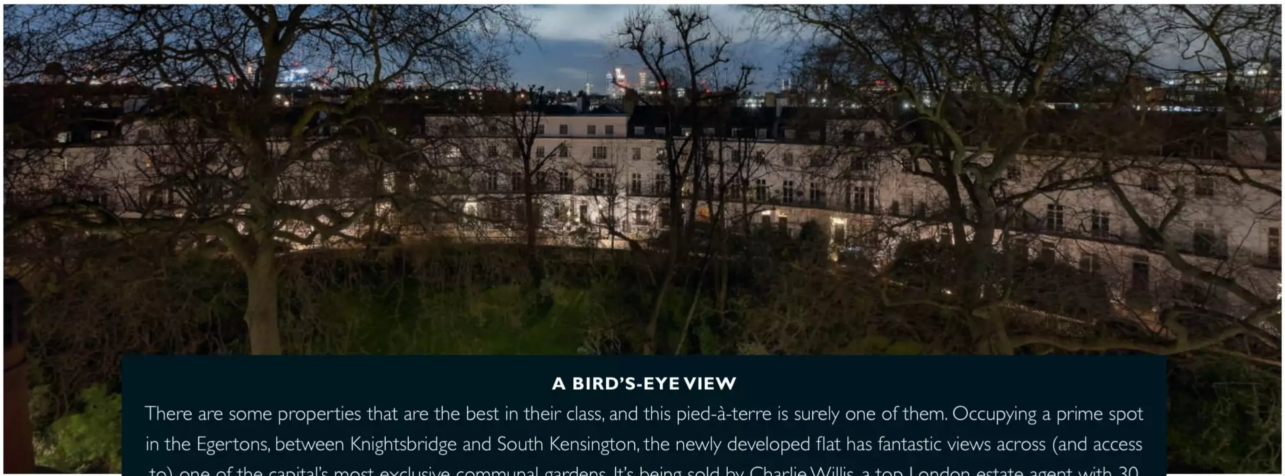




HOME FROM HOME

In the heart of South Kensington lies The Other House, a stylish hybrid of a hotel and serviced apartments, where guests get their very own address and can stay for as long as they choose. There's also the recently launched private members' club, The Club at The Other House, which offers an excellent range of amenities and a busy schedule of events. 'Designed for modern lifestyles that demand flexibility and balance, The Club offers an inspiring environment where residents and members can seamlessly transition between work, wellness, personal growth and meaningful connection,' says the founder, Naomi Heaton.

For more information, visit otherhouse.com

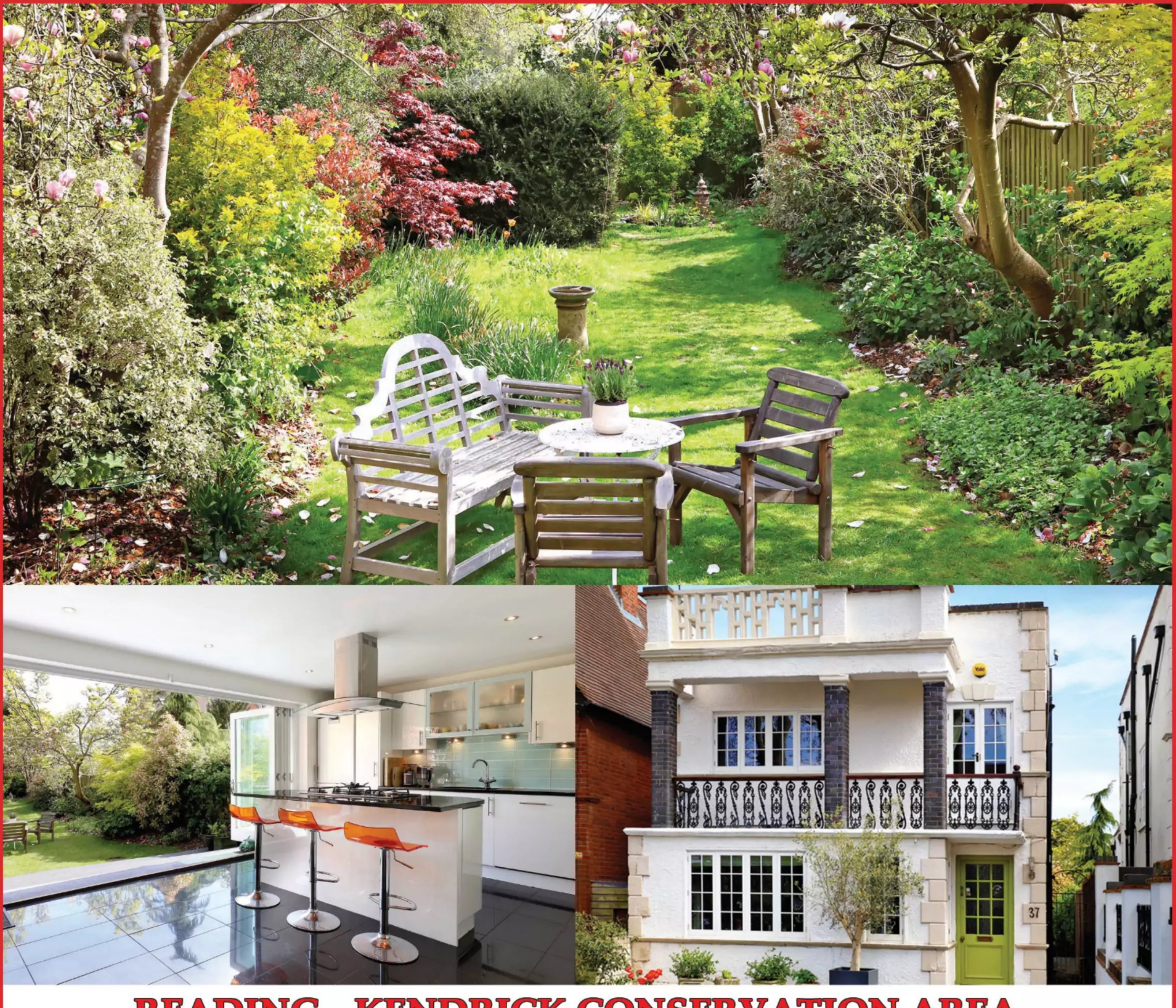


A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

There are some properties that are the best in their class, and this pied-à-terre is surely one of them. Occupying a prime spot in the Egertons, between Knightsbridge and South Kensington, the newly developed flat has fantastic views across (and access to) one of the capital's most exclusive communal gardens. It's being sold by Charlie Willis, a top London estate agent with 30 years in the business, whose thriving agency provides independent and discreet advice to clients based around the globe.

For more information, visit charliewillis.london

SARA BATTING
ESTATE AGENT



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What would Conner Ives do?

Advice on LIFE *and* STYLE *from the American* FASHION *designer*

If you could raid anyone's archive, whose would you choose?
Hamish Bowles's for his Cristóbal-era Balenciaga; Alexander Fury's for his John Galliano Carnation dress. They're as much of a fashion geek as I am.

The most worn item in your wardrobe is…
A Polo Ralph Lauren rugby I found in Retro Man nine years ago. I've worn it so much that it's almost threadbare, which is my favourite thing about clothing: the human charge we bring to them.

Your holy grail grooming product?
The entire Augustinus Bader skincare line, including The Rich Cream, obviously, and The Essence.

Do you have a go-to comfort dish?
My mum would always make pasta with a red sauce that would take literally two days to make. The whole house would smell of it. I do a simple *Sopranos* cookbook version when I'm feeling homesick.

Where is the best view in the world?
The oak tree at the intersection of Wood Road and Croton Lake Road in Bedford Hills, New York. It's 15 minutes from my parents' house and we call it "the sunset spot".

Has there been a standout interiors piece from the past few years?
The most money I ever spent on a single object was this fabulous Living Divani mohair velvet couch from Lancashire. If you want gorgeous furniture, find eBay sellers in the north of England.

What's your party trick?
Starting rumours.

And the best place to party in London?
Someone's house.

What did your school reports say about you?
That I was a "con man". I was the kind of student who would get up in the middle of a test to ask my teacher if I could use the bathroom and then 20 minutes later we'd be chatting about her kids. I'd do anything possible to get out of schoolwork.

Was there a design moment that inspired you to get into fashion?
Raf Simons's debut Dior haute couture show in 2012 altered my brain chemistry.

A great gift you've given someone?
I bought my boyfriend a constellation.

How do I make a good first impression?
The thing I hate the most is a defeatist attitude. If someone is ever like, "I would love to wear this dress but I could never pull it off," that's when I go awol. Like, not with that attitude you're not!

The secret to enjoying life?
Not overanalysing, whether you're enjoying life or not. Let it happen.

Tell us what's on your bedside table.
My boyfriend's stash of Slip eye masks, because I refuse to install curtains.

What's the best advice you've received?
Grow up. People are dying. It's just never that deep.

Do you have a signature scent? "Rihanna gifted me PENHALIGON'S *Halfeti [£215] years ago and I've been wearing it exclusively ever since."*

If you could live in one hotel for the rest of your life, which would you choose? "THE SAVOY. *It feels like you're staying within the walls of history."*

Who's the best model working today? "ALEX CONSANI. *We spent an infamous night at the Chiltern mere days before it burnt down…"*

If you could have lunch with any fashion figure, past or present, who would it be? "HALSTON. *I'd just want the unfiltered gossip. Like, what would he be whispering in Liza Minnelli's ear?"*

How do you unwind? "A mini martini – with a gilda – at RITA'S *in Soho. But truly? I love to do nothing."*

PROTECT
THE
DOLLS

Which social cause do you wish people would talk about more? "Trans rights." T-shirt, £75, CONNER IVES

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